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Bangalore Mirror

ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 28 | Min 18 | Humidity 60% Partly sunny Sensex 83,216 | Nifty 25,492 | Gold 1,20,772 | Silver 1,48,377 | Dollar 88.71 | Euro 102.52 | GBP 116.32

TUNNEL THROUGH

As National Green Tribunal defers hearing on matter related to Bengaluru's Tunnel Road Project, citizens await clarity on controversial plan

PAGE 9

DEADLY BITE

Ever since K'taka declared it a notifiable disease in 2024, reporting on snakebites has gone up: 14,420 cases and 111 deaths recorded so far

PAGE 11

With 10+ murders being reported in city each month, B'luru seems to have turned into a tinderbox; experts say socio-economic constraints tend to fuel passions and turn trivial rows into murderous situations

THE AGE OF RAGE

Young adults from low-income backgrounds often get caught in vortex of violence

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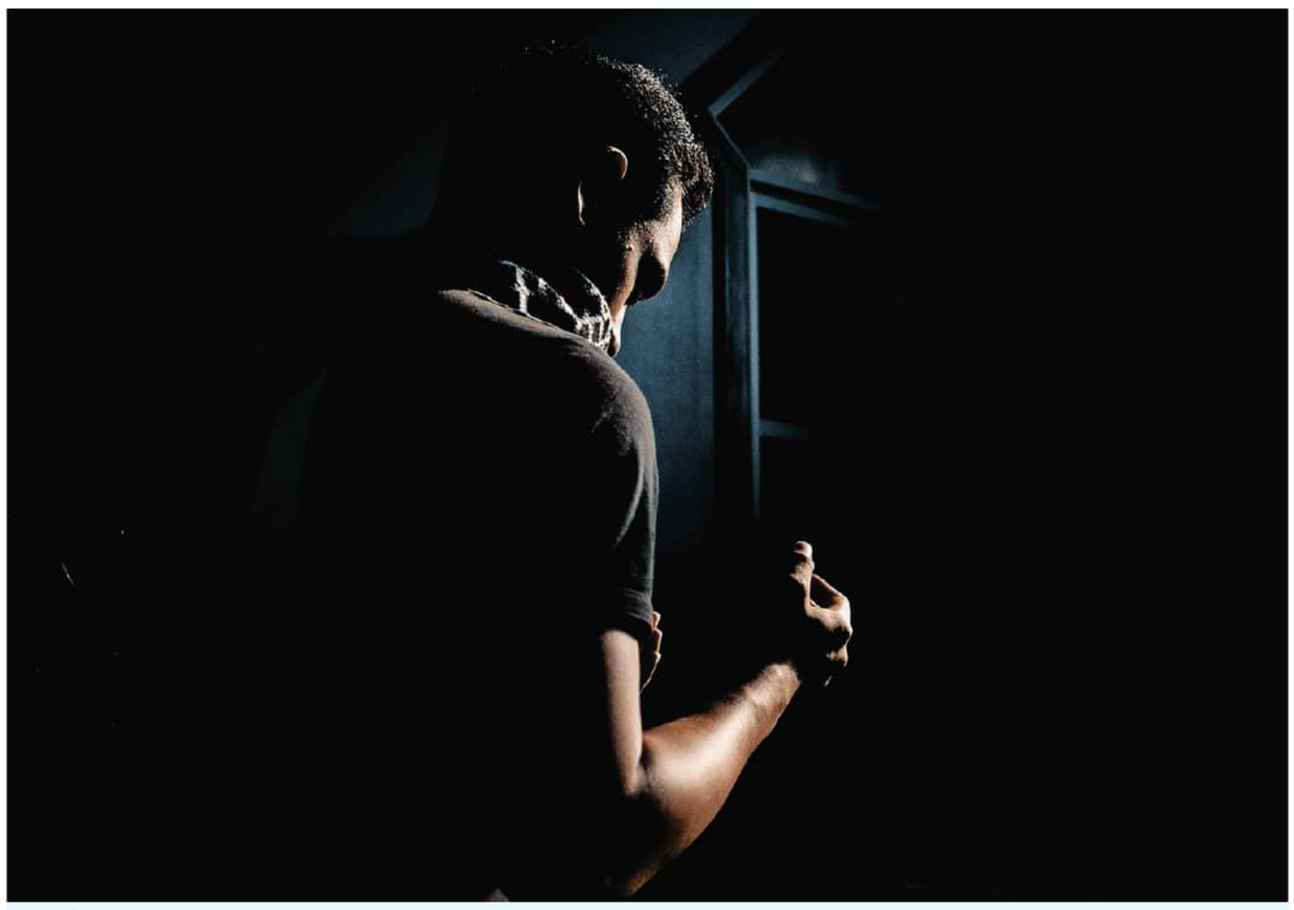
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR



"People growing up in a household where explosive behaviour was common, such as verbal or physical abuse, face the risk of developing extreme rage

—Dr. Dinesh Rao, forensics expert

The smallest spark seems to be enough to trigger deadly violence in the city. From a switched-off light to a pot of chicken curry, or a brush of a rear-view mirror to unsolicited advice -- small conflicts are fast escalating into serious crimes such as murders, with experts saying young adults are in the forefront of such situations.

According to police data, nearly 129 murder cases have been reported till September end, which means more than 10 murders each month. Experts say murders are likely to increase in fast-growing metros. "The rapid urbanisation, industrialisation with growing demands and needs of the people are the main factors that result in homicides or suicides.

When there is an imbalance between wants and needs and the capacity to satisfy them, it is always met with violence," said Dr. Dinesh Rao, Professor & Head Forensic Medicine & Toxicology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jammu.

Murders, which were once common for property issues or as revenge, are now being reported under other causes such as trivial reasons.

The city was shaken by a vindictive chase-and-kill route that a couple chose to take out their anger on a delivery agent, whose two-wheeler allegedly brushed against their car mirror.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

Digging in the ruins

While there is no action to fix rickety police quarters, BWSSB keeps itself busy replacing pipes on premises

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Residential quarters for police personnel on RK Mutt Road near Halasuru Metro Station have been in a dilapidated state for a while. The quarters that are supposed to accommodate 32 families, only house half that number as three structures are completely rundown.

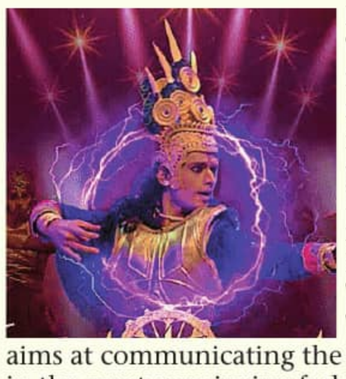
So imagine the shock of the residents when instead of the housing structure being fixed, they are getting brand new underground drainage pipes for some reason. The Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) officials have begun the task of replacing the underground pipes on the residential quarters' premises. "There was no problem with the existing UGD pipe. I do not know who asked the BWSSB to replace them. The road between the structures has been dug up to lay the pipe and we don't know when the authorities will restore the road," said one of the residents on the condition of anonymity.

Expressing concern over the dilapidated condition of the buildings,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Art of storytelling



Prabhat, The Temple of Art, an internationally renowned artistic institution, is presenting '18 Days' which revolves around the Kurukshetra war from The Mahabharatha. The dance musical aims at communicating the story of Kurukshetra in the most convincing fashion, which can cater to audiences across the globe irrespective of demographic characteristics. **Where: Sri Kumaran Children's Academy, Doddakallasandra; When: November 15, 4 pm and 7 pm**

02 Shop away

'Salaam Souk', hosted this year with the theme of 'Habibi, welcome to Dubai', inspired by the glamour, opulence and vibrancy of the Middle East, presents an exclusive shopping experience. **Where: Jayamahal Palace; When: Nov 8, 1 pm**

03 Jazzy beats

Derek & The Cats, a Bengaluru-based jazz funk collective led by pianist and composer Derek Mathias, will be performing live. Known for their infectious blend of jazz, funk, and house, the band's performances are a burst of groove and energy. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: November 7 and 8, 9.30 pm**

04 Sing it out

A one-day choir of amateur singers invites voices of all skill levels to gather, harmonise, and sing in a community. Participants will be rehearsing and performing Chiquitita by ABBA, exploring vocal harmony in a relaxed, inclusive setting. No prior experience required. **Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar; When: November 8, 3 pm**

05 Family bonding

Eklavya School invites children aged 2–10 and their families to the Eureka Eklavya Festival, a day of hands-on fun, creativity, and learning. **Where: Eklavya Early Years, Yelahanka; When: November 8, 10 am to 4 pm**

Tiger attack: 3rd death in 1 month causes flutter

Lack of buffer zone between forests and agricultural fields, invasive plants taking over, fire incidents, intervention in guise of wildlife conservation causing spike in conflict

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On Friday, another human death due to human-tiger conflict was recorded in Saragur taluk in Mysuru, the third death in less than a month. According to officials from the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD), a fatal tiger attack occurred on November 7 in Haleheggodilu village, located in Saragur taluk of Mysuru district. The victim, Swamy, a 58-year-old farmer, was reportedly ambushed in the early hours while en route to his farm. The tiger dragged him into nearby bushes, where it partially consumed his thigh and head. The first incident, recorded less than a month ago, was from Bennegere village in the same taluk on October 26, when a 55-year-old farmer lost his life. The second human death was reported from Badagalapura village in Saragur taluk on October 31, involving the death of a 65-year-old farmer.

On October 16, a 34-year-old farmer was critically injured in a human-tiger conflict in the same taluk in Mysuru. Wildlife conservationists say the string of unfortunate incidents in the same area points to unresolved root causes that need to be addressed by the state's Forest Department.

A lack of buffer zone between forests and agricultural fields in the belt, invasive plant species taking over ground vegetation, long-lasting forest fire incidents,

All available forest personnel are being deployed to capture tiger responsible for repeated attacks, with camera traps and drones also used to pinpoint animal

and intervention in the name of wildlife conservation are some issues that have led to a surge in human-wildlife conflict cases, experts say. "The Karnataka Forest Department, in the name of conservation, has taken up detrimental activities. Tourism, along with renovation activities and filling of water holes in core areas of the tiger reserve, which are meant to be free from human intervention, would only lead to more unfortunate incidents," said a wildlife conservationist. The wildlife conservationist opined that all illegal constructions inside forest areas should be demolished, and tourism in core areas should be stopped. "Moreover, unnecessary interventions should be stopped unless scientifically proven," said the wildlife conservationist.

Experts also call for a carrying capacity assessment of the region with regard to the tiger population. According to BK Singh, retired head of the Karnataka forest force, the accidents have taken place close to the forest boundary, indicating a lack of buffer zone between agricultural fields and forests as one of the main reasons behind these accidents.

He noted that although the primary concern seems to be the lack of a buffer zone, it is equally important to assess the prey population, including species such as deer, sambar, and wild boars. "Invasive plant species such as Senna have taken over a big chunk of Bandipur and Nagarhole. Senna is not palatable for ungulates or any other herbivore. However, they are everywhere, impacting regeneration of shrubs, grasses, and sedges that are preferred by ungulates," said Singh.

Notably, a recent habitat analysis of Indian gaur at BTR by a group of researchers shows that while more than 48 per cent of the reserve becomes low on resources for the herbivore (low suitable habitat) in the dry season, less than 23 per cent of the reserve falls under high suitable habitat area. In the wet season, 43.83 per cent of the total reserve area becomes highly suitable for Indian gaur, 21.01 per cent moderate, and 35.15 per cent of the area is found to be having low suitability. Singh also points to long-lasting forest fire incidents, leading to habitat degradation of tigers' prey population, impacting the prey base.

Bandipur, Nagarhole safaris closed

Following a surge in human-wildlife conflict cases, Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has ordered the closure of safari and trekking activities in human-wildlife conflict zones in Nagarhole and Bandipur Tiger Reserves. All available forest personnel are being deployed to capture the tiger held responsible for repeated attacks. "We are combing the area with the help of forest personnel, four drones, and camera traps. The area already has a few camera traps, and we are installing nearly 40 more cameras. We have images from previous camera traps which will be used to pinpoint the tiger involved in these accidents," said S Prabhakaran, Director of Bandipur Tiger Reserve.

Message on buses sparks debate among animal lovers

The slogan 'Be Kind to Animals' has become a common sight on government buses across Karnataka — part of a state initiative to promote compassion toward animals among drivers and commuters. While the move has been welcomed, animal lovers feel the campaign's reach is too limited. They question whether awareness restricted only to transport corporation buses is enough. Animal activists argue that similar sensitisation drives must be extended to all government and private vehicle drivers, including those operating goods carriers and private buses. They believe this broader approach would help prevent frequent road accidents involving stray animals.

Officials emphasise that drivers must operate vehicles with heightened alertness, especially in rural and forested stretches where cattle, dogs, or wildlife often cross roads. Many fatal accidents have occurred when motorists, unaware of animals resting under parked vehicles, have run them over. Transport officials have reiterated that driver responsibility and control are vital. "Drivers must prioritise the safety of both people and animals,"

said a senior official, adding that further campaigns are planned to instill road discipline and alertness, urging drivers to check under their vehicles before starting and to limit speed for safety. Meanwhile, animal lovers say while slogans on buses are a good start, compassion on the road must turn into consistent action to protect lives — human and animal alike. **— BMB**

CRRI tests ash from waste plants for city road construction

A new study by the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) may turn Bengaluru's mounting waste problem into a road-building solution. Researchers are testing whether ash generated from the city's waste-to-energy plants can be safely used in road construction. The Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd (KPCL) has commissioned the CRRI to study the feasibility, funding Rs 45 lakh for the research. Interim results are expected in three to four months, with a full report due in two years. If the experiment succeeds, Bengaluru could soon see its trash literally paving its roads. The city generates around 6,000 tonnes of waste daily, much of which ends up in landfills like Mandur, causing severe pollution. At present, the Bidadi waste-to-energy plant processes over one lakh metric tonnes of waste and generates 11.5 MW of power daily—leaving behind tons of ash. Officials say using this ash for road construction could help reduce landfill pressure and offer a sustainable fix for the city's waste crisis. **— BMB**

Social media page in radar over AI-edited video of Deputy CM

The Sadashivanagar police have registered a case against a social media page for allegedly sharing an AI-generated video falsely portraying Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar pushing Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during a meeting. The complaint was filed on Friday by Deepu CR (37), an advocate, who stated that he came across the misleading video while scrolling through Instagram on his phone. The post, uploaded by the account 'Kannada Chitraranga', carried the caption "This should not have been done," and depicted a fabricated altercation between the two political leaders. An investigation is underway to trace those responsible. **— BMB**

CRIME FILES

Foreign national held with 361 ecstasy tablets

City police arrested a foreign national identified as Miracle Nwachewku (29) and seized 361 ecstasy tablets weighing 162 grams and valued at ₹8 lakh, following an AI-driven alert on Wednesday morning.

A local resident near an apartment in Chikka Banahalli overheard a man speaking on the phone about narcotic substances on November 5, and alerted the "Namma 112" helpline. The AI- and ML-enabled 112 Control Room quickly analysed and verified the information before directing "Hoysala–233," a patrol vehicle attached to Kadugodi Police Station, to respond.

The patrol unit, led by ASI Dayananda Swamy and AHC Prabhakar, reached the location within 16 minutes. The team detained the suspect and, upon searching him, recovered 361 ecstasy tablets worth ₹8 lakh.

–BMB

Goon attempts suicide outside police station

A rowdy sheeter attempted suicide by setting himself on fire outside the Sampigehalli police station early on Friday, following a dispute with his wife.

Police said Mohammed Siddiqui, alias Burn Siddiqui, a notorious rowdy sheeter from KG Halli with multiple cases including robbery, murder, and attempted murder, arrived at the station carrying petrol in a water bottle. Upset after learning that his wife had come to the police station to file a complaint against him over a family dispute, Siddiqui allegedly poured petrol on himself and attempted to ignite it using a lighter.

Alert night-beat personnel immediately intervened and managed to douse the flames and rush him to a nearby hospital. Siddiqui sustained burns on approximately 20 per cent of his body and is currently reported to be out of danger..

–BMB

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PAGE 16

CONFIDENT IN HER SKIN: Kareena says she is happy in her size and shape

Man murders partner over doubts

A 21-year-old woman was allegedly murdered by her partner at Gangamma Layout, under Amruthahalli police station limits, on Friday around 3 am, after he suspected she was involved with someone else.

The victim, Anjali, hailed from Pavagada and worked at a vegetable shop, and also gave tuition to children. The accused, Ravichandra, a resident of Surapur, was employed as a driver. Police officials explained that the couple had been living together in Amruthahalli. Anjali did not return home on time, which allegedly fuelled Ravichandra's suspicion that she was seeing another man. Ravichandra allegedly returned home drunk, confronted Anjali over her absence, and reportedly assaulted and fatally stabbed her in a fit of rage.

–BMB

Site con: Man gets 2 years in jail

A city court has sentenced a man to two years' simple imprisonment for cheating a buyer of ₹20 lakh on the pretext of selling a residential site. The 3rd Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) convicted Guruswamy, a resident of Avalahalli, and imposed a fine of ₹20,000.

According to police, Guruswamy had assured Vinod Kumar that he would sell him a 30x40 ft site registered in his name. On December 23, 2015, he executed a sale agreement and collected ₹20 lakh as an advance payment. However, even after two years, he failed to register the property in Kumar's name or return the money.

–BMB

Man loses ₹18,000 in wine scam

A 63-year-old Bengaluru resident lost ₹17,994 to an online delivery scam while trying to order wine. Bengaluru Central CEN police registered an FIR in the case on November 1.

According to police, the accountant found a contact for a wine delivery service when he looked it up online on October 31. He was sent a QR code and instructed to make a payment. After the victim transferred an initial amount of ₹2,999, the accused claimed that the payment had not been received. He sent another QR code, and then in multiple transactions, a total of ₹17,994 was deducted from the victim's bank account. When no wine was delivered, he approached the police.

–BMB

Metro mayhem at Attiguppe

Commuters at Attiguppe Metro Station were left stranded after entry gates were shut well before the scheduled closing time, sparking outrage and online criticism. A video showing a passenger arguing with security personnel went viral on social media, with many condemning the premature closure and the staff's attitude.

Around 10:10 pm, a passenger to Indiranagar was denied entry. Security said gates close at 10 pm for safety, but commuters argued service runs later. Social media slammed BMRCL for poor management, with one user noting, "Public transport exists for convenience, not hardship." The incident sparked outrage online, with many questioning the Metro's efficiency.

–BMB

Bengalureans opt for profitable & peaceful green escapes

Managed farmlands are fast emerging as the new favourite among investors, outperforming traditional real estate segments such as apartments and plots. With the promise of both high returns and a serene lifestyle, farmlands located on the outskirts of Bengaluru and Mysuru are witnessing record demand.

City dwellers, tired of traffic congestion and urban stress, are increasingly looking for weekend getaways where they can breathe fresh air and reconnect with nature. Managed farmlands offering fully equipped farmhouses with resort-style amenities have become a preferred choice for these buyers. For many Bengalureans, such properties serve as both an investment and a rejuvenating weekend home.

Farmhouse with resort comforts

The demand for farmlands that include farmhouses has seen a sharp rise. Many developers now offer managed farmland projects with built-in farmhouses, landscaped spaces, and recreational facilities. Some even allow buyers to grow commercial crops such as sandalwood, adding to the land's profitability.

"Several managed farmland projects offer both investment potential and lifestyle comfort. Buyers can enjoy their weekends amidst greenery while watching their investments grow in value," say industry experts. Developers claim that prices of farmland with farmhouses have nearly doubled in a few years, attracting investors not only from Bengaluru but also from Mysuru and other cities.

Sandalwood farming

Sandalwood cultivation has become a new trend among farmland investors. Buyers can either construct a farmhouse or opt for sandalwood plantations managed by developers. Managed farmlands along the Bengaluru–Mysuru highway are proving especially profitable due to upcoming infrastructure projects and the newly developed peripheral ring road around Mysuru, which has enhanced accessibility. With improved connectivity, these locations are now just about 15 minutes from Mysuru city.

Developer-managed safety

According to a developer, "Buying farmland near the Bengaluru–Mysuru highway ensures multiple benefits — from professional farm management to assured capital appreciation. Developers themselves handle the cultivation, security, and maintenance, making it a hassle-free and safe investment." He added that such farmlands also come with resort facilities, located about 32 km from Mysuru and 95 km from Bengaluru, making them ideal for cottage construction and peaceful living close to nature.

Government guidelines now allow sandalwood cultivation on private land under secure supervision, with police protection extended to safeguard trees. This has further boosted investor confidence in the managed farmland segment, turning it into both a profitable and peaceful escape for urban professionals seeking a balance between wealth and wellness.

–Prakash VL

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Boom turns bottleneck as roads stay frozen

Neglected arteries trap commuters, stall progress, and test residents' patience across Panathur and Balagere

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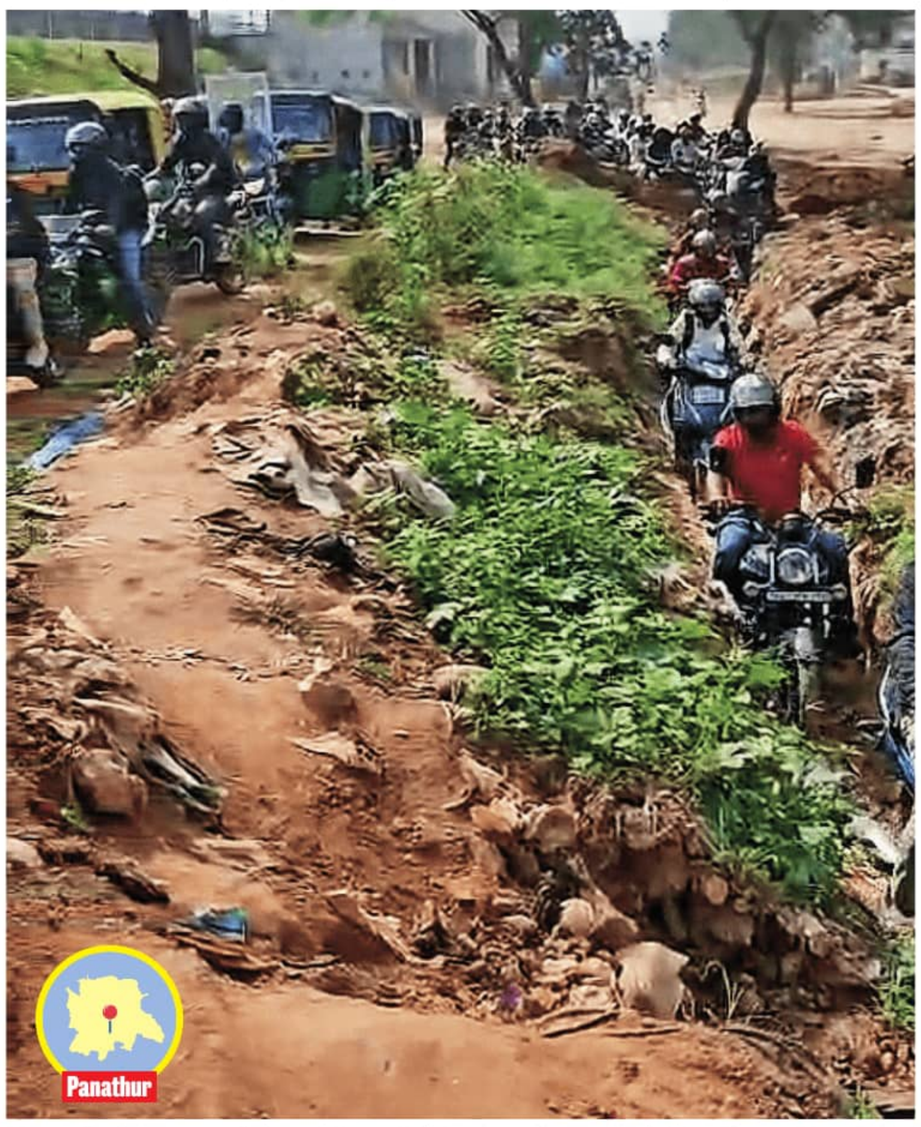
Though home and office segments have registered significant growth around Balagere and Panathur, road infrastructure has remained stagnant for more than a decade. Motorists, schoolchildren, and employees of various software companies continue to face major problems commuting on Panathur Main Road. Residents claim that the former BBMP (now the BECC and the Greater Bengaluru Authority, GBA) failed to implement road infrastructure as envisioned in the City Development Plan (CDP) 2015, leaving commuters stranded and frustrated.

Resident frustration

Residents say they have been running from pillar to post over the years seeking solutions to traffic snarls on Panathur Road. "It takes me 45 minutes to an hour to cover a 2-km stretch between Balagere and Outer Ring Road. Many schools are located on this route. Schoolchildren struggle to reach school on time due to constant traffic jams. We want the authorities to provide the 150-ft road as outlined in CDP 2015. We were hopeful when the government announced the formation of the Greater Bengaluru Authority, but it has disappointed us. We see no difference between the former BBMP and the present GBA," said Vyas Krishna, a Balagere resident.

Swetha Rangaswamy, a Balagere resident and member of the Individual Taxpayers' Forum, added that the GBA has been delaying the completion of the CDP Road connecting Gunjur to New Horizon College on Outer Ring Road. "The basic Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the construction of the ROB-cum-extended viaduct has still not been prepared. Tenders have been called twice in the last 17 months with no progress. Meanwhile, approvals for multiple high-rise buildings and tech parks keep coming, even though the CDP Road does not exist. The Town Planning Department is adding to traffic woes on ORR by issuing numerous approvals, while the Transport Minister has not facilitated adequate public transport along these crucial arterial roads," she said.



Motorists commuting on all available routes to reach the Outer Ring Road

Ignored orders

Swetha said that the Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, and Chief Secretary visited Panathur Cross on May 21, 2025, instructing BS Prahalad, the then Chief Engineer who led Bengaluru for ten years, to complete the CDP Road work. "Yet these engineers ignore the Chief Minister. I personally raised this issue with the Deputy Chief Minister during a meeting with ORRCA members in 2023, but nothing was done. Officials keep talking about decongesting Bengaluru without taking concrete action. Taxpayers' lives have become cheaper than beggars' in this city, while public funds go unaccounted for," she added.

Amol Raghuwanshi, another Balagere resident, said the issues would likely have been resolved if a local MLA or senior politician lived in the area. "Permissions for new builders are rampant, yet the existing road infrastructure remains unchanged. Ambulances get stuck in traffic for up to 30 minutes, and this could happen to anyone tomorrow. I moved here eight years ago expecting proper development, but the area remains neglected. Roads around Balagere are dusty and uneven. I have been suffering from allergies and require ongoing medication, while my neighbour was advised back surgery due to bumpy roads. The CDP Road could alleviate these issues, but there has been no progress for years," he said.

For over a decade, citizens have battled endless gridlocks, rising dust, and fading promises as the city's grand development plan gathers dust while approvals for new towers surge unchecked

Bengaluru East City Corporation Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure) Lokesh M stated that construction of the CDP Road will commence once the land acquisition process is completed, though no timeline has been provided.

Banner chaos chokes neighbourhood

In the Vijayanagar locality, residents now find themselves surrounded by illegal flex banners and hoardings at every turn. Despite a blanket ban by the Karnataka High Court on unauthorised flexes and repeated complaints from citizens, the problem shows no signs of abating. Residents disclosed that most of these flexes are political in nature, featuring local representatives wishing party leaders on birthdays, announcing events, or celebrating personal milestones. They allege that political influence has led many to flout the law, even as civic authorities fail to take decisive action. "Despite a blanket ban on flexes by the court and the Government of Karnataka, concerned politicians continue to ignore the orders. Is there one law for politicians and another for the common man? It shows their lethargic attitude," said a frustrated resident of Vijayanagar.

The unchecked installation of such banners not only violates civic norms but also creates several problems. "Flexes obstruct visibility at intersections, pose a risk to motorists, and ruin the aesthetic appeal of public spaces. During the rains, torn flex materials clog stormwater drains, worsening the city's flooding problem. The banners, often nailed to trees or tied to electric poles, also damage infrastructure and endanger pedestrians," said another resident.

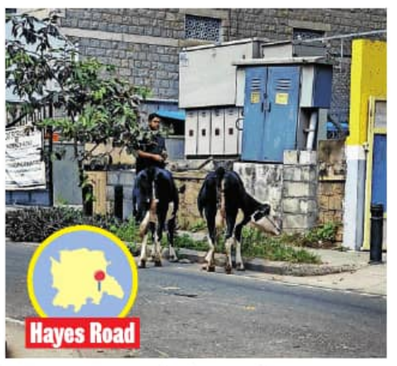
While the authorities carry out drives to remove illegal banners and flexes, they soon reappear, leaving no permanent solution. "I have been complaining to the authorities since July, yet no action has been taken. This issue keeps recurring every few months," added the resident. Residents are now demanding stricter penalties and greater accountability from the BBMP to ensure that political banners do not return. They stressed that only consistent enforcement, not temporary clean-up drives, can finally put an end to the recurring flex menace. — BMB

Cattle take over commuter lanes

ComIt's not potholes or reckless drivers this time — it's cows. On Hayes Road in Ward 14, a small herd of stray cattle was found roaming. In many areas, stray cows are the latest cause of Bengaluru's infamous traffic jams. "On Hesaraghatta Road, vehicles were seen inching forward helplessly as a group of cows sat calmly in the middle of the road, chewing cud and ignoring honking motorists," said Mohammed Said, a resident.

This scene has become routine in several parts of the city. Once milked, many local cattle owners simply let their cows roam free to graze or rest, saving themselves the cost of feed and space. Left to wander, these animals find comfort on asphalt roads — warm from the sun and, to them, apparently peaceful. For everyone else, it's chaos.

Residents say they have complained multiple times but seen little action. "Every day we see the same cows sitting right in front of cars and bikes. They don't move even when traffic piles up. It's dangerous, especially at night," said a resident of Hayes Road.



Another resident added, "The owners should be identified and punished. These cows have been let loose by the owners, who should be placed behind bars, and the cows taken to a care shelter."

With BBMP and traffic authorities slow to act, the city's streets have quietly turned into resting spots for stray cattle — leaving Bengaluru's drivers to navigate yet another obstacle on their daily commute.— BMB

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Bench blight

Mekhri Circle

Broken and uncomfortable benches at Mekhri Circle bus stop make it difficult for senior citizens to rest while waiting.

Sewage snarl

Markandeya Nagar

Despite previous reports, sewage odours and potholes at Markandeya Nagar, Agrahara Layout remain unaddressed.

Road ruin

Victoria Layout

Six months on, Palmgrove Road in Victoria Layout remains dug up, with damaged footpaths, unsafe drains, and worsening potholes affecting school routes.

North Bengaluru emerges hotspot for real estate investment

Chikkaballapur and Devanahalli, towns located on the northern outskirts of Bengaluru, is quickly becoming one of the most sought-after real estate destinations in the region. With skyrocketing property prices in the city, many homebuyers and investors are turning their attention to this emerging hub that promises both affordability and future growth.

Connectivity is key

A key factor driving demand for plots in Chikkaballapur is the recent development of the Elevated Expressway, which has significantly enhanced road connectivity. Located in close proximity to the Kempegowda International Airport, and well-connected to Nelamangala via signal-free corridors and the Nagasandra metro line, the town now boasts an impressive transport network. Upcoming metro expansions are expected to further improve accessibility, enhancing its appeal to both end-users and investors.

Affordable

Following the arrival of prominent players like Isha Foundation, the real estate sector in Chikkaballapur has expanded rapidly. Many projects are located closer to National Highway 69, are being described as hidden gems. Realtors said that compared to market prices, buyers can save up to ₹7 lakh on plot purchases here. Given the proximity to the highway, acquiring such properties at affordable rates in the future may become nearly impossible.

Industrial corridor boost

The region's growth is also being fueled by its location near the industrial corridors of Peenya, Yeshwanthpur, and the Tumkur Road. Several multinational companies have already set up operations in these areas, increasing employment opportunities and, in turn, the demand for residential real estate. Builders and developers are now actively catering to the housing needs of thousands of workers in these zones by developing projects in Chikkaballapur.

Smart investment for future

Chikkaballapur and its surrounding areas offer a promising investment opportunity. With multiple development plans connected to the Tumkur Road corridor, property values in the area are steadily rising.

The state government has also earmarked Tumkur as a Smart City, which is expected to generate further employment and increase demand for both residential ownership and rental housing.

Moreover, the likelihood of metro rail extensions reaching this region adds to its long-term investment appeal. As infrastructure grows and connectivity strengthens, Chikkaballapur is well-positioned to redefine urban living and investment returns in the coming years.

–Prakash VL

11 million sq ft. of real estate potential at Bengaluru's transit hubs

A new report from CBRE South Asia Pvt. Ltd. reveals that Bengaluru has a significant opportunity to develop its real estate around key transit nodes. According to the report, 'Billions in Transit: Assessing the Impact of Transit Oriented Development on Indian Cities,' Bengaluru holds approximately 11 million sq. ft. of potential development within and around its metro stations, bus terminals, and railway hubs. This finding positions Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) as a crucial model for the city's future urban planning, which aims to create more compact, sustainable, and connected communities.

National trend with local implications

Bengaluru's potential is part of a larger national trend, as India's top eight cities collectively have an opportunity to develop over 106 million sq. ft. of real estate around their major transit hubs. While Delhi-NCR leads the list with 32 million sq. ft. of potential, followed by Mumbai, Chennai, and Kolkata, Bengaluru's 11 million sq. ft. is still a substantial figure. The report defines TOD as a model that integrates residential, office, retail, and leisure spaces, promoting a "live-work-play" ecosystem that reduces commute times and supports more sustainable growth, a concept particularly relevant to Bengaluru's traffic challenges.

Experts see opportunity

According to Anshuman Magazine, Chairman & CEO of CBRE India, TOD paves the way for "vibrant, mixed-use communities that are not only commercially viable but also sustainable and livable." He noted that as metro networks and transport hubs continue to expand across urban India, TOD will be a key factor in shaping future-ready cities. Ram Chandnani, Managing Director of Leasing Services, added that developers are increasingly aligning with TOD principles to design integrated ecosystems that meet the needs of urban professionals in cities like Bengaluru. The model, he said, creates a "win-win framework" for developers, homebuyers, and retailers by unlocking greater value and enhancing accessibility.

Overcoming hurdles

To fully realise Bengaluru's potential, the report also addresses critical challenges. These include the need for better funding models, more efficient land acquisition, and flexible zoning regulations. The report's recommendations call for the creation of unified transport authorities with planning and development powers, as well as the implementation of policies that improve walkability through shaded pathways, which would be a welcome change for the city. These strategic interventions are crucial to ensuring that the TOD model is successfully implemented and can help alleviate some of the city's most pressing urban issues.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

BUZZING FOR BALANCE

Our reader shares a charming image of a honey bee gliding towards a cluster of vibrant flowers, busily collecting nectar to sustain its hive. Captured at just the right moment, the photograph highlights the bee's delicate grace and vital role in pollination—reminding us how these tiny creatures keep our ecosystems blooming and thriving.

The picture was clicked by reader **NJ Ravi Chander**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Bengaluru officials crack down on road delays, encroachments, and filth

During a surprise inspection, civic leaders order swift road repairs, footpath clearance in Horamavu, intensify cleaning under 'Kasa Suriuva Habba' campaign

Additional Commissioner (Development) Lokhande Snehal Sudhakar conducted an inspection of Horamavu Main Road and nearby ward roads within the limits of the Bengaluru East City Corporation today. During the visit, the Additional Commissioner instructed contractors to complete the ongoing development works on Horamavu Main Road within the stipulated time frame. He directed the executive engineers to ensure the road and its adjoining stretches are free of potholes. Observing water leakage from BWSSB pipelines, which has caused damage to the road surface, he urged water board officials to take immediate corrective measures and coordinate with civic staff to prevent further deterioration.

While inspecting the stretch, Lokhande also noticed encroachments along the footpaths and instructed officials to clear them without delay. He ordered the removal of all unauthorised advertisement flex boards, banners, and buntings installed across the area, stressing that violators would face action as per municipal regulations. As part of the ongoing intensive cleanliness campaign under the East City Corporation, large-scale cleaning drives were conducted on Graphite Road, ESI Road, Outer Ring Road, Horamavu Main Road, Panathur Main Road, Crom Road, ITPL Main Road, KR Puram Market area, Balagere Main Road, Tin Factory, and Mahadevapura Lake Road. The drives involved clearing accumulated debris, silt, dry leaves, garbage, old furniture, and other waste materials. Officials said the campaign aims to improve hygiene and ensure smooth waste management across the zone.

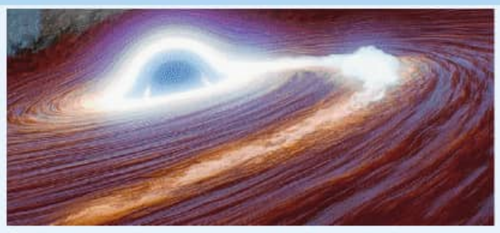
To raise public awareness, the civic body has launched a creative initiative titled "Kasa Suriuva Habba" (Garbage Dumping Awareness Festival). As part of this campaign, garbage is symbolically dumped in front of the houses of residents who litter public spaces, reminding citizens of the importance of proper waste segregation and disposal.

Additional Commissioners Snehal Lokhande, Sunil Kumar lead drives clearing flex boards, tackling stray dogs, fixing potholes

Meanwhile, Bengaluru North Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar held a phone-in programme at 7 a.m. from the Byatarayanapura control room on Amruthahalli Main Road to directly hear public grievances. Seventeen complaints were received, mainly about irregular waste collection. The Commissioner instructed officials to act immediately and ensure regular garbage clearance in all wards. Responding to complaints about stray dogs and potholes, he directed officials to intensify dog-catching efforts, provide treatment to injured animals, and expedite ongoing road repair works to maintain smooth traffic movement. **— BMB**

As part of the "Garbage Dumping Awareness Festival," officials symbolically dumped waste at littering spots to highlight citizen responsibility in maintaining cleanliness.

DID YOU KNOW?



Scientists have detected the brightest flare ever recorded from a supermassive black hole—one that blazed with the light of 10 trillion suns. Such outbursts arise from extreme cosmic events like magnetic field entanglements or disturbances in the swirling gas disks that encircle black holes, offering rare insights into these mysterious cosmic giants. The dazzling flare was first captured in 2018 by a camera at the Palomar Observatory in California. It peaked in brightness over three months and has been fading gradually since. Researchers believe it occurred when a massive star strayed too close to the black hole and was torn apart by its immense gravity. "At first, we didn't really believe the numbers about the energy," said Matthew Graham of the California Institute of Technology, which operates the observatory. Published in Nature Astronomy, the findings reveal that the flare originated 10 billion light years away, marking the most distant and powerful such event observed to date. The discovery offers a window into how supermassive black holes interacted with their surroundings in the early universe, shaping the galaxies—and the cosmos—we inhabit today. — AP

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PIB flags fake AI video of President Murmu, Rafale

Claim: A doctored video circulating on social media falsely shows President Droupadi Murmu saying she was "blackmailed" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government to promote Rafale fighter jets, alleging that the PM is using her as a prop for political publicity.

Fact: PIB Fact Check confirmed the viral video of President Droupadi Murmu is AI-generated and digitally altered. The President never made any such statement. The video was circulated by Pakistani propaganda accounts to mislead the public and spread misinformation.

PIB Fact Check on Wednesday flagged a digitally altered video of President Droupadi Murmu that is being circulated by Pakistani propaganda accounts with false claims alleging that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is using her as a prop to promote Rafale fighter jets. In a post on social media platform X, PIB Fact Check clarified: "Pakistani propaganda accounts are circulating a digitally altered video of President Droupadi Murmu with false claims that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is using her as a prop to elevate Rafale PR."

The manipulated video features an artificial voice mimicking President Murmu, falsely claiming that she was being "blackmailed" by the PM Modi government to participate in Rafale-related promotions.

The fake clip includes statements such as: "I want to request the citizens of our country that Modi Ji's Hindutva government blackmailed me and ordered me to sit in Rafale... If anything happens to me, Modi Ji and his Hindutva politics will be responsible." PIB Fact Check categorically dismissed these claims, asserting that "The President of India has NOT made any such statement." It further warned that the video is AI-generated and shared with the intent to mislead the public.

The fact-checking unit also shared a link to the authentic, unedited video and urged users to report such misinformation immediately via official channels through WhatsApp at +91 8799711259 or email at factcheck@pib.gov.in. This is not the first instance of AI-generated misinformation flagged by the PIB. On Monday, it also warned users about another AI-manipulated video featuring Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, which falsely promoted an "investment programme" promising returns of Rs 60,000 in 24 hours and Rs 10 lakh a month.

This video of President Murmu has been digitally altered !
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"A video on Facebook falsely shows Union Finance Minister @nsitharaman promoting an investment program that promises easy daily income. The Finance Minister or the Government of India has NOT launched or endorsed any such scheme," PIB Fact Check clarified in an official post. The agency urged citizens to remain cautious of such "get-rich-quick traps," advising them to verify any claims before taking financial decisions.

"Don't fall for such get-rich-quick traps! Stay alert. Stay informed. Verify before you share," PIB warned.

PIB also advised users to check for signs of video manipulation — such as distorted lip movements, mismatched voice sync, inconsistent backgrounds, or fake logos — and to verify links, ensuring that official government websites always end with ".gov.in."

— ET online

Govt to consider RSS march proposal

The Karnataka government on Friday informed the High Court that it would "positively consider" the proposal submitted by the Convenor of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Kalaburagi unit to hold a march (Pathasanchalana) in Chittapur town.

The development comes after the High Court, on October 30, had directed RSS Kalaburagi Convenor Ashok Patil to meet district authorities on November 5 at the office of the Advocate General to discuss modalities for conducting the proposed march, which was earlier scheduled for November 2.

The court had also instructed that the meeting be attended by senior counsel for the petitioner, senior advocate Aruna Shyam, and Advocate General (AG) Shashi Kiran Shetty to guide discussions and ensure clarity on permissions and logistics.

The court has listed the matter for further hearing on November 13. This was the second meeting between the parties as directed by the court. Earlier, on October 24, the court had instructed the State to hold a peace-committee meeting with the organisers on October 28. **–BMB**

Man arrested for theft of vehicles worth Rs 15 lakh

A man has been arrested for allegedly stealing multiple two-wheelers across Bengaluru City and Rural districts, leading to the recovery of 14 stolen vehicles worth Rs 15 lakh. The Parappana Agrahara police cracked the case following a complaint filed on October 23.

According to the complaint, the victim had parked his two-wheeler near a hotel in Electronic City on the afternoon of October 22, before visiting relatives in Varthur. When he returned around midnight, he discovered that his vehicle had been stolen. A case was subsequently registered at Parappana Agrahara Police Station.

During the investigation, police gathered crucial information and, on October 28, detained a suspect along with a stolen two-wheeler. Upon interrogation, the accused confessed to the theft and revealed that he had hidden stolen vehicles at two locations—seven at an empty lot behind Huskuru Foot Market and six in the Rayasandra gunpowder forest.

Police recovered 13 more two-wheelers from these spots the same day, bringing the total seizure to 14 vehicles. With the arrest, police have solved 18 theft cases linked to Parappana Agrahara (1), Hebbagodi (5), and Attibele (2) police stations. Six recovered vehicles remain unidentified. The accused was produced before court and remanded to judicial custody. **–BMB**

Gambling debt drives man to burglaries

The Wilson Garden police have arrested a man involved in a house burglary, leading to the recovery of 120 grams of stolen gold jewellery worth Rs 12 lakh. The arrest comes after a complaint was lodged on September 20 by a resident of Wilson Garden.

According to the complaint, the victim and his wife had locked their house and left for work on September 20. When they returned in the evening, they found the front door lock broken and discovered that about 50 grams of gold kept in their cupboard had been stolen. A case of house burglary was registered at the Wilson Garden Police Station.

A suspect was apprehended on October 8. Upon interrogation, he confessed to the burglary and admitted that he resorted to theft after losing large sums of money in gambling.

Further investigation showed that the accused had sold the stolen gold in Delhi and Haryana between October 13 and 15. Police successfully recovered 120 grams of gold ornaments from these locations.

With his arrest, two burglary cases, one each under Wilson Garden and Ashok Nagar police stations, have been solved. **–BMB**

Tunnel Road hearing postponed to December

National Green Tribunal defers hearing over related PIL to be heard in HC; legal expert says tribunal is following apex court's earlier order outlining HC's scope

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The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has deferred hearing on the matter related to Bengaluru's Tunnel Road project to a later date, citing another PIL on the matter pending before the Karnataka High Court.

The green court passed the order following Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) and Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE), making submissions regarding the pending PIL in the matter before the HC.

"Upon submission by GBA and B-SMILE, NGT inquired about the stage and status of proceedings in the High Court. The tribunal observed that this matter would be taken up after December 9, following directions by the High Court," said a source from NGT who attended the hearing.

City-based environmentalists and civic activists say NGT is a specialised body for expeditious disposal of cases related to environment protection. Since the project has many environment-related concerns, NGT should have dealt with those aspects.

A city-based environmentalist said that NGT was created to focus on environment-related matters and ensure speedy disposal of these issues, while focusing on the overall environmental good. "The tribunal is supposed to address environment-related issues, and this deferral is disappointing. Considering the stand the judiciary has taken, it appears that the only option left with Bengalureans is to come out on the roads in thousands," said the environmentalist.

Tunnel Road project case postponed as similar matter pending under HC's purview

City-based environmentalists and civic activists say NGT should have dealt with case as it is specialised for expeditious disposal of cases related to environment protection

However, legal experts say, the green court, as per an order by the Supreme Court a few years ago, is subordinate to the High court, as far as territorial jurisdiction is concerned.

"The SC, in the past, has stated that it is not appropriate for the NGT to proceed if the High Court has formally taken a case under consideration and is dealing with it. NGT, in this matter, appeared to have followed the SC's ruling," said a legal expert.

The southern bench of the tribunal initially had taken up the case based on two petitions filed by Bengaluru-based environmentalists, civic activists, and NGOs. During the first hearing session held on September 10, the green court ruled that notices be issued to the state government, GBA, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), B-SMILE, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), and the project consultants.

The petitioners had highlighted that the DPR of the project is riddled with factual errors, incomplete annexures, and omissions of essential studies such as site-specific geological surveys, hydrological and flood-risk mapping, biodiversity assessment, and tree enumeration. They also mentioned that traffic modelling excludes major vehicle categories, underestimates emissions, and still admits that key junctions will remain at worst congestion levels, to mention a few.

NGT's official order

After hearing the matter on November 3, the official order by the tribunal, a copy of which is in the public domain, states that the matter is deferred as none of the parties, including the Karnataka government, GBA, SEIAA, B-SMILE, MoEF&CC, and the project consultant, have filed their responses.

Man stabbed to death in drunken dispute

Three men were arrested for allegedly killing their friend during a drunken brawl near Thyagarajanagar under the Banashankari police limits late Wednesday night.

The accused have been identified as Velu (53), a resident of Thyagarajanagar who owns an autorickshaw and runs a small hotel in Banashankari and his employees Stephen Raj (27) and Pratap (24), both from Tamil Nadu.

Police said the victim, identified as Suresh (45), a daily wage labourer, and the trio had consumed alcohol at a bar on Wednesday night before leaving together in an autorickshaw. An argument broke out between them during the ride, following which the accused allegedly assaulted Suresh, smashed a beer bottle on his head, and stabbed the broken piece into his neck before fleeing the spot.

Locals rushed Suresh to a nearby hospital, but he succumbed to his injuries around 11 am on Thursday. Based on a complaint, Banashankari police arrested the trio later that evening and further investigations are underway. **–BMB**

Women's panel questions scope of SIT inquiry

The Karnataka State Women's Commission has written to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the Dharmasthala cases, seeking clarity on whether its inquiry covers long-standing allegations of crimes and atrocities against women reported from the region.

The letter by Commission Chairperson Dr Nagalakshmi Chowdhary, addressed to the SIT chief, asks if the probe is comprehensive and requests a report on its scope. It follows continued demands from women's rights groups urging that the SIT not limit its investigation to a whistleblower's complaint about alleged mass burials but also examine cases of missing women, sexual assaults, and unnatural deaths reported over the years in and around Dharmasthala, Belthangady taluk, Dakshina Kannada district.

The "Kondavaru Yaru – Who Killed Women in Dharmasthala?" campaign, initiated by women's organisations and civil society members, has expressed support for the Chairperson's initiative, calling it a timely intervention. The campaign members have also urged the SIT to ensure that the investigation remains fair, independent, and comprehensive. **–BMB**

'We wanted new roof, but are getting pipes instead'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a home-maker said that the residents have been appealing to the higher authorities to repair or demolish the existing residential quarters because they have been facing a lot of problems due to the poor conditions. "Many families have vacated the residential quarters. We are also thinking of relocating as these residential quarters are not safe. We wanted officials to repair the roof but they are laying UGD pipes," said the homemaker.

Demanding that the pipe-laying work be stopped as it would be a waste of money, BR Chandran, a social activist from Halasuru, said the police authorities must ensure that the quarters are either repaired or demolished to prevent any untoward incidents in the future. "I have complained to the higher authorities. They have assured me that they would look into the matter," he said.

Bangalore Mirror had on September 14, 2024, written about how the residential quarters for police on RK Mutt Road have become an eyesore for the public and dangerous for the inmates. However, a police sub-inspector of Halasuru police station said that he had already sent a proposal to higher authorities to demolish the old structures. The PSI told Bangalore Mirror that Karnataka State Police Housing Corporation Limited will take up the construction of residential quarters for police families after demolishing the existing old structures. However, nothing has happened till date even after one year.

Meanwhile, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Halasuru Division, told BM that he would talk to the BWSSB engineer. "The residential quarters are to be demolished," the ACP said.

However, BWSSB assistant executive engineer said that work on replacing old UGD pipes is in progress. "We will replace the water pipes after laying the UGD pipes," the assistant executive engineer said.

Murders over trivial issues rise in B'luru

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The 24-year-old agent Darshan Vimbathan died and his colleague was injured when the couple rammed their car into their bike in JP Nagar, with CCTV footage showing a 2-kilometre pursuit. In another incident in Chikkajala, a 40-year-old labourer Shambhu Thanti was allegedly beaten to death by his roommate Rajesh after they quarreled over eating non-vegetarian food during Chhath Puja.

Meanwhile in Govindarajanagar earlier this week, 41-year-old manager Bheemesh Babu was murdered by his colleague Vamshi, who allegedly attacked him with chili powder and an iron dumbbell after an argument over switching off a light. On Cemetery Road, 20-year-old engineering student Rahul was fatally stabbed by friend Preetham following a dispute over a missing gold chain. In Uttarahalli, 34-year-old Netravathi was killed by her minor daughter and friends over her objection to a relationship.

According to Dr Rao, emotional outburst is the main cause for extreme rage. "Such rage is influenced by several factors. People growing up in a household where explosive behaviour was common, such as verbal or physical abuse, face the risk of developing extreme rage. Past traumatic events, whether they were personal or witnessed, can lead to increased sensitivity to stress and rage episodes. Individuals with a history of substance abuse are also well known to be with extreme rage or emotional crises. Psychological conditions with borderline personality disorder (BPD) and narcissistic personality disorder (NPD) are known to get involved in extreme rage episodes. Even genetic factors have been found to play a role in how intensely a person reacts," Dr Rao said.

According to sociologists primary socio-economic or psychological factors contribute to the extreme lack of tolerance and quick escalation to violence over minor disputes.

"The increase in unemployment, substance abuse and continued increase in cost of living are the other main factors known to contribute to the increase in murders in cities such as Bengaluru," said an expert.

Dr Rao said that young adults from low-income backgrounds, including labourers are often involved in such incidents.

"Migrant workers or population is another important factor, besides other factors these populations are affected by environmental, regional, religious, cultural and linguistic factors."

Alcohol and other substances are said to be among the major contributors to violence and homicides.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Baby kousar K A W/o Shaik Ismail R/o Ward No-18 Near Presidency School Chikkaballa -pura-562105 have changed my name to Bibi Kouser.

I Vinay Lalith S/O, Sridhar Venkata Mutluru R/o Fl No 102 Futuristic Abbey 2888, 3rd Main 1st Block, Bel Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru, Karnataka, 560097 have changed my name to M Vinay Lalith.

I, INDUDHAR G HIREMATH alias INDUDHARSWAMY HIREMATH, R/o NO. 4003 19TH CROSS, K.R.ROAD BANASHANKARI 2ND STAGE, BENGALURU-560070 KARNATAKA, have changed my name as INDUDHARSWAMY G HIREMATH, vide affidavit dated 15.03.2022, sworn before notary O. S. Chengappa Bengaluru.

I, SHILPA alias SHILPA HIREMATH, W/o INDUDHARSWAMY G HIREMATH R/o No. 4003, 19th CROSS K.R.ROAD, BANASHANKARI 2ND STAGE, BENGALURU-560070, KARNATAKA, have changed my name as SHILPA I HIREMATH, vide affidavit dated 15.03.2022, sworn before notary O. S. Chengappa Bengaluru.

WE, Suyamindra Raghavendra Zalaki aged about 42 years, S/o Raghavendra Zalaki and Rashmi Zalaki aged about 38 years, W/o Suyamindra Raghavendra Zalaki R/o Amity Harmony, B-Blk, 110, Channasandra, R R Nagar, Bengaluru-560098 have changed our minor daughter's name from Aashrita to Aashrita Zalaki for all purposes via Affidavit:IN-KA863133065 66282X dated 05-11-2025

I Shubhi R/O 204 Shri Balaji Pride, 7th Cross , 10th Main Malleshpalaya, Bangalore, Karnataka 560075, have changed my name to Shubhi Singh

I, Santhisagar Reddy Kanipakam Somashekar S/o Kanipakam Somasekhar Reddy R/o No 6-59, Kanipakam Village, Ilrala Mandalam Chittoor-517131 have changed my name to K.S. Shanthi Sagar Reddy for all purposes.

I, Anusuya Devi, W/o Mr. Kantha Raju, aged about 66 years, residing at No. 6, Lepakshi Nrsy, Mounika Espancia, Kantha Raju road, Banjara layout, Horamavu, Bengaluru, Karnataka state - 560043, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Anusuiya Devi Kantharaju to Anusuya Devi vide affidavit dated 06/11/2025 sworn to before Sumithra N, Advocate and Notary, Bengaluru.

I, Javariya Sultana R/o No 3/4 Barlie Street Cross Shanti nagar Bangalore 560025 Have Changed My Name to Javeriya Sultana for All Purposes

I, Sandhyarani Sabhapati Hegde, W/o Sabhapati Hegde, R/o 888,19th Cross,19th Main, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru, have changed my name to Sandhyarani for all purposes.

I, Satendra Kumar Singh s/o Ramjatan Singh R/o No.7/4, 2nd cross, Pooja garden, Anjaneya temple Rd, K Channasandra, Kalkere, Bengaluru 560043 have changed my name to Satendra Singh. I shall called by this name for all purposes

I Jayalakshmi Manjunath Madyar R/o flat no 6, Sri sai apartments, 4th main, 4th cross, Vinayaka layout, boopsandra, Bengaluru have changed my name to Jayalakshmi Ranganath shenoy vide affidavit on 6/6/25, hence from now onwards i shall be Jayalakshmi Ranganath shenoy

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ANDHRA PRADESH WITH STATUE OF EQUALITY 10/6* DAYS
NOV: 9*, 12, 16*, 22, 23* DEC: 2, 12, 21*, 22, 25, 28*

SHIRDI NASIK/PANCHA JYOTHIRLINGA* 7* DAYS
NOV: 10*, 16, 24* DEC: 1*, 7, 8*, 14, 15*, 21, 22* 28, 29*

KERALA SPECIAL/ NAVAGRAHA DARSHAN* 7/4* DAYS
NOV: 10*, 17*, 24*, 30 DEC: 1*, 7, 8*, 14, 15*, 21, 22*, 28, 29*

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State battles surge in deadly snake bites after notification drive

Declaring snakebites a notifiable disease boosts case reporting, spurs government action on anti-venom supply, awareness, and rural healthcare readiness

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Karnataka has reported a staggering 14,420 cases of snakebites and 111 deaths since February 2024, following the state's move to declare snakebites a notifiable disease. The official notification, issued on February 12, 2024, marked a significant step in addressing the rising number of cases and ensuring better treatment and prevention measures.

According to the Health and Family Welfare Department, 2024 alone saw 13,235 cases and 100 deaths due to snake bites. In the first two months of 2025, from January 1 to March 9, another 1,754 cases and 11 deaths were recorded, highlighting the persistent risk posed by snakebites across the state. This included one death in Bengaluru Urban, though no fatality was reported within the BBMP limits.

Officials said that to support the families of victims, the government has been providing compensation for deaths caused by snakebites. While 19 deaths were reported in 2023, the toll rose sharply to 100 in 2024. Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said the government has prioritised the availability of Anti-Snake Venom (ASV) to ensure timely treatment. ASV is listed under the Essential Drug List and supplied to all Primary Health Centres, taluk hospitals, and district hospitals. A directive issued on December 8, 2023, mandated all government hospitals to maintain adequate stock of ASV to handle emergencies effectively.

Medical professionals across Karnataka have undergone extensive training in snakebite management, improving their ability to provide swift and effective treatment. The state has also launched Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) campaigns in collaboration with various organisations to raise awareness about first-aid measures and the importance of seeking immediate medical attention after a bite, the minister said in the Assembly.

To further reduce fatalities, district collectors have been instructed to conduct death audits for every snakebite case. If a death occurs due to delayed hospital admission or reliance on traditional healing practices, action will be taken under the Karnataka Private Medical Establishments Act. Regular inspections are also being carried out to ensure that government hospitals are adequately equipped with ASV and other essential resources.

Snakebites continue to be a serious concern in rural parts of Karnataka, where the incidence is considerably higher. The government is working to enhance access to healthcare and improve response time in these vulnerable areas to reduce mortality.

In a recent reply in the Legislative Council, Health Minister Rao said Karnataka became the first state in India to declare snakebite a notifiable disease on February 12, 2024. This mandates all healthcare facilities to report cases, ensuring accurate data tracking and quicker response mechanisms. Authorities believe this move has improved reporting accuracy, even though it may not indicate a proportional rise in actual cases.

The Health Department has issued directives for all doctors and health staff to undergo special training in handling snakebite cases. Anti-snake venom is being provided free of cost at all government health facilities, with the Karnataka State Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd tasked with maintaining adequate stock across hospitals.

To strengthen prevention efforts, the government held a departmental workshop on July 10, 2024, to coordinate between departments.

Community awareness programmes involving gram panchayats, NGOs, ASHA and Anganwadi workers, and departments such as Forest, Agriculture, and Rural Development are underway to educate people about preventive steps and the importance of timely medical care.

Government workshops unite health, forest, and agriculture departments to coordinate prevention, treatment, and reporting of rising snakebite incidents

IN FOCUS
Anti-venom Drive

With over 14,000 cases and 111 deaths since February 2024, Karnataka intensifies its anti-snakebite strategy — expanding anti-venom stocks, training doctors, and auditing deaths to improve timely treatment access

SOCIALTATTLE

THAT WENT VIRAL

A viral video from Panathur, Bengaluru, shows techies navigating muddy, broken roads on bikes turning their daily commute into an off-road adventure
#bengaluru #roads #panathur #adventure #viralvideo #trending #latest #viral2025 #bikeride

A video posted by X user @NarryTalluri showing IT employees wading through narrow, debris-filled pathways in Bengaluru's Panathur area on their way to work has gone viral under the caption "Croma adventure trail. #Bengaluru #Panathur, horrible situation. IT employees are struggling to reach offices on these narrow paths. Please act or make a way to pass easily. I pity myself for being a Bengaluru IT employee paying tax to this state."

The clip, which quickly gained traction online, drew attention to the plight of tech professionals forced to navigate unsafe stretches due to ongoing repair work on Panathur Road and the closure of a nearby railway underbridge for safety upgrades.

WHAT'S TWEETING

The cementing of a tree base on 100ft Ring Road, Yellow Line, opposite Hotel Paramos/Hot Griddle near Ragigudda Arch (Metro pillar RP84), was highlighted by user @vasudevg, who also shared photos and urged authorities including @GBA_office, @GBAChiefComm, @ICCCBengaluru, and @comm_blr_south to remove the cement and save the tree, noting that the footpath repair work was being done carelessly.

Vasudev
@vasudevg
Follow
Some idiot has cemented the base of the tree.Remove cement,save the tree please. @GBA_office @GBAChiefComm @ICCCBengaluru @comm_blr_south
Loc: 100ft ring road,YellowLine, opp Hotel Paramos/Hot Griddle,Metro pillar RP84 ,near ragigudda arch
Footpath repair being done by idiots
10:17 am · 07 Nov 25 · 13.7K Views

BANGALORE MIRROR TAGGED

SmileySudhir
@hisudhir007
Follow
Why is the Whitefield–Airport road still in such pathetic condition even after 5-6 years of "work in progress"?Totally unsafe for senior citizens and pragnant women.Th junction near the airport from this road is a nightmare 20-30 mins stuck due to taxi chaos. @BangaloreMirror

The pathetic condition of the Whitefield–Airport Road, despite 5–6 years of "work in progress," was highlighted by a user, @hisudhir007, who tagged @BangaloreMirror. The stretch was described as unsafe for senior citizens and pregnant women, with the junction near the airport said to be a nightmare due to taxi chaos causing 20–30 minutes of traffic jams.

INBRIEF

Ministers, MLAs flout asset disclosure rule, defy Lokayukta mandate

Despite being lawmakers themselves, several ministers and legislators in Karnataka have failed to comply with the Lokayukta Act by not submitting their mandatory annual declarations of assets and liabilities. According to official data, five ministers, 67 MLAs, and 28 MLCs have not filed their statements for the 2024–25 financial year with the Karnataka Lokayukta.

Under Sections 22(1) and 7(1) of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, every public representative — including ministers and legislators — must declare their and their family's assets and liabilities by June 30 each year. Though the law provides an additional two-month grace period, many have failed to comply even after the extended deadline despite repeated reminders from the Lokayukta office.

Among the defaulters are Ministers KH Muniyappa, Dinesh Gundu Rao, BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan, Rahim Khan, and KN Venkatesh, along with former minister KN Rajanna Minister D Sudhakar reportedly submitted his declaration only after securing an extension.

Similarly, 28 MLCs have also defaulted, raising serious concerns about transparency, ethics, and accountability among Karnataka's elected representatives. **–BMB**

Oral cancer dominates state screening results

Oral cancer has emerged as the most common condition detected under Karnataka's ambitious 'Gruha Arogya' (Home Health) programme, which has screened over 22 lakh people across the state for 14 major diseases.

Of the 5,000 suspected cancer cases identified so far, 3,403 were linked to oral cancer, followed by 1,311 suspected breast cancer and 950 cervical cancer cases. All the patients have been referred for further evaluation and treatment, with officials noting that early detection is improving recovery outcomes.

Rs 185 cr health scheme provides free medicines, monitors hypertension, diabetes. **–BMB**

Dog bite cases surge across K'taka

Karnataka has recorded an alarming surge in dog bite incidents this year, reporting its highest-ever total of 3,97,894 cases up to October 2025 — nearly touching the four-lakh mark. Health department data shows a sharp year-on-year increase from just 54,420 cases in 2021 to over 3.6 lakh in 2024, reflecting an unchecked rise in stray dog attacks. Though rabies deaths have slightly declined — from 42 last year to 31 so far this year — the average remains worrisome, with nearly 40,000 new bite cases reported each month. **–BMB**

Minority loan demand doubles, funds stagnant

The Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation (KMDC) is facing a severe resource crunch as loan applications have nearly doubled, but funds remain stagnant. This financial year, 55,646 applications were received, yet only 10,747 beneficiaries were supported — leaving nearly 78% waiting for assistance. The government had allocated 150 crore under nine welfare schemes aimed at empowering economically weaker sections among Muslims, Christians, Jains, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Parsis. However, the surge in applications has outpaced funding. The schemes, which include education and trade loans, vocational training, self-employment programs, and Ganga Kalyana irrigation support, are designed to promote social and economic upliftment. Officials warn fund neglect may stall minority empowerment, deepening inequailty statewide. **–BMB**

Your car is spying on you

Cars are collecting more data than ever, raising privacy concerns

While driving to a new restaurant, your car's satellite navigation system tracks your location and guides you to the destination. Onboard cameras constantly track your face and eye movements. When another car veers into your path, forcing you to slam on the brakes, sensors are assisting and recording. Waiting at a stoplight, the car notices when you unbuckle your seat belt to grab your sunglasses in the backseat.

Modern cars are computers on wheels that are becoming increasingly connected, enabling innovative new features that make driving safer and more convenient. But these systems are also collecting reams of data on our driving habits and other personal information, raising concerns about data privacy.

Here is what to know about how your car spies on you and how you can minimise it:

It's hard to figure out exactly how much data a modern car is collecting on you, according to the Mozilla Foundation, which analysed privacy practices at 25 auto brands in 2023. It declared that cars were the worst product category that the group had ever reviewed for privacy.

The data points include all your normal interactions with the car — such as turning the steering wheel or unlocking doors — but also data from connected onboard services, like satellite radio, GPS navigation systems, connected devices, telematics systems as well as data from sensors or cameras.

Vehicle telematics systems started to become commonplace about a decade ago, and the practice of automotive data collection took off about five years ago.

The problem is not just that data is being collected but who it's provided to, including insurers, marketing companies and shadowy data brokers. The issue surfaced earlier this year when General Motors was banned for five years from disclosing data collected from drivers to consumer reporting agencies.

The Federal Trade Commission accused GM of not getting consent before sharing the data, which included every instance when a driver was speeding or driving late at night. It was ultimately provided to insurance companies that used it to set their rates.

The first thing drivers should do is be aware of what data their car is collecting, said Andrea Amico, founder of Privacy4Cars, an automotive privacy company.

Modern cars are computers on wheels that are becoming more connected, enabling new features that make driving safer

In an ideal world, drivers would read through the instruction manuals and documentation that comes with their cars, and quiz the dealership about what's being collected.

But it's not always practical to do this, and manufacturers don't always make it easy to find out, while dealership staff aren't always the best informed, Amico said.

Privacy4Cars offers a free auto privacy labeling service at vehicleprivacyreport.com that can summarise what your car could be tracking.

Owners can punch in their car's Vehicle Identification Number, which then pulls up the automaker's data privacy practices, such as whether the car collects location data and whether it's given to insurers, data brokers or law enforcement.

Data collection and tracking start as soon as you drive a new car off the dealership lot, with drivers unwittingly consenting when they're confronted with warning menus on dashboard touch screens.

Experts say that some of the data collection is baked into the system, you can revoke your consent by going back into the menus.

"There are permissions in your settings that you can make choices about," said Lauren Hendry Parsons of Mozilla. "Go through on a granular level and look at those settings where you can."

For example, Toyota says on its website that drivers can decline what it calls "Master Data Consent" through the Toyota app. Ford says owners can opt to stop sharing vehicle data with the company by going through the dashboard settings menu or on the FordPass app.

BMW says privacy settings can be adjusted through the infotainment system, "on a spectrum between" allowing all services including analysis data and none at all.

Drivers in the US can ask carmakers to restrict what they do with their data.

Under state privacy laws, some carmakers allow owners across the United States to submit requests to limit the use of their personal data, opt out of sharing it, or delete it, Consumer Reports says. Other auto companies limit the requests to people in states with applicable privacy laws, the publication says.

You can file a request either through an online form or the carmaker's mobile app.

You can also go through Privacy4Cars, which provides a free online service that streamlines the process. It can either point car owners to their automaker's request portal or file a submission on behalf of owners in the U.S., Canada, the European Union, Britain and Australia.

Experts say that some of the data collection is baked into the system, you can revoke consent by going back into the menus

Experts warn that there's usually a trade-off if you decide to switch off data collection.

Most people, for example, have switched to satellite navigation systems over paper maps because it's "worth the convenience of being able to get from point A to point B really easily," said Hendry Parsons.

Turning off location tracking could also halt features like roadside assistance or disable smartphone app features like remote door locking, Consumer Reports says.

BMW advises that if an owner opts to have no data shared at all, "their vehicle will behave like a smartphone in flight mode and will not transmit any data to the BMW back end."

When the time comes to sell your car or trade it in for a newer model, it's no longer as simple as handing over the keys and signing over some paperwork.

If you've got a newer car, experts say you should always do a factory reset to wipe all the data, which will also include removing any smartphone connections.

And don't forget to notify the manufacturer about the change of ownership.

Amico said that's important because if you trade in your vehicle, you don't want insurers to associate it with your profile if the dealer is letting customers take it for test drives. "Now your record may be affected by somebody else's driving — a complete stranger that you have no relationship with." **AP**

BITS & BYTES

Deepseek gets pessimistic

Chinese artificial intelligence (AI) developer DeepSeek made its first public appearance in almost a year after it became a global sensation, fielding a senior researcher who told a government-organised internet conference that he was pessimistic about AI's future impact on humanity.

Chen Deli took the stage alongside the chief executives of five other companies including Unitree and BrainCo at the World Internet Conference in Wuzhen. Asked about DeepSeek's global success and how its open-source approach would encourage the progress of AI, Chen said, "In the next 10-20 years, AI could take over the rest of work (humans perform) and society could face a massive challenge, so at the time tech companies need to take the role of 'defender'," he said. **Reuters**

Norms balanced: Nasscom

IT industry body Nasscom on Friday hailed India's AI Governance Guidelines as a balanced and innovation-centred blueprint that prioritises coordination over control.

The framework sets out an agile, principle-based approach that supports technological advancement while managing risks through evidence-driven, pragmatic tools, Nasscom said in a statement.

The guidelines propose creating the AI Governance Group (AIGG), Technology Policy Expert Committee (TPEC), and AI Safety Institute (AISI), thus enabling effective coordination and a whole-of-government approach without creating an over-centralised regulator, it said.

"The Guidelines' emphasis that sectoral regulators remain in the lead on enforcement and oversight reflects a deliberate effort to preserve the balance between flexibility and accountability. On risk mitigation, the Guidelines have absorbed the call for proportionality and evidence-based governance. **PTI**

Tippler tiger: Cops step in

Police in Nagpur district have issued a notice to an Instagram user over an AI-generated video of a man making a tiger drink liquor, citing that the clip sent a wrong message and could damage the image of the wildlife reserve, where it was claimed to have been shot, an official said on Friday.

The six-second clip, which went viral on social media, showed an inebriated man giving liquor to a tiger and patting the big cat on an empty village street.

Several social media posts claimed the video had been shot in Madhya Pradesh and that the tiger had strayed from the Pench Tiger Reserve, and a 52-year-old drunk labourer mistook the animal for a giant cat. The Nagpur Rural Police took cognisance of the matter because the reel was linked to the Pench Tiger Reserve, the official said. According to the police, the reel was posted on October 30, and on verification, it was found to be fake. **PTI**

HEALTH TIP: After a night of sleep, your body is naturally dehydrated, which can lead to fatigue and low energy

Drinking a glass of water as soon as you wake up kickstarts your metabolism, helps flush out toxins and improves digestion

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Boys still in grip of masculinity norms: 6 findings from new survey

CAGED IN STEREOTYPES

Rigid norms of manhood, based in manly confidence and toughness, emotional stoicism, disdain for femininity, and dog-eat-dog banter, are influential among boys and young men in Australia.

Between one quarter and one half of boys and young men endorse these norms.
Over half feel pressure from others to live up to them, believing most people expect them always to be confident, strong and tough.

These are some of the findings from a new Australian survey of adolescents aged 14-18 years, conducted by The Men's Project at Jesuit Social Services.

There are six key findings from this research.

1 Pressure to be manly remains strong

The pressure on males to be "manly" remains strong in Australian society, even in adolescence. Societal pressures on teenage boys to be "a real man" were equally observed by both boys and girls: between 60 per cent and 63 per cent of boys and girls believe most people expect teenage boys to be manly, confident, and strong at all times.

2 Most boys are open-minded about what it means to be a man

Despite this, most boys and young men themselves do not subscribe to stereotypical masculine norms. Like young adult men aged 18-30, most boys endorse more open-ended, inclusive models of manhood. Of the 27 "adolescent man box" rules – the rigid ideas of manliness – there was majority endorsement among boys for only three of them.

These findings should steer us away from two extremes in views of boys and young men. In one, all boys are painted as the flag-bearers for a rigid, sexist masculinity. In the other, the harms some boys and young men perpetrate against others are described as the problem of only a very small number of mad, bad males.

Neither is true.

In contradiction to the first, boys' support for rigid masculine norms is weaker and more uneven. In contradiction to the second, between one in five and one in ten boys personally endorse attitudes that condone or support violence and control in sex and relationships. In addition, one in five boys reported engaging in some form of bullying, physical violence or sexual harassment in the previous month.

3 Boys are more likely than girls to believe in masculine norms

There is a large gender gap in adolescents' support for stereotypical norms of manhood. Although boys and girls agree on the extent of societal pressure, boys are far more likely than girls to endorse these norms.

What impact will this gender gap have on young people's relationships and friendships, when twice as many boys as girls feel that boys have to act manly, confident, and strong, avoid activities usually done by girls, and hide their feelings and fears?

4 More boys think boys have it harder than girls

While adolescents in general support gender equality, there is also ambivalence and backlash, particularly among boys. Nearly all adolescents agree it is "important for teenage boys to treat girls and women as equals in all areas of life". However, 42 per cent of boys (and 13 per cent of girls) also agree that "in Australia today, boys have it harder than girls".

Young men's views of boys as disadvantaged may reflect recognition of genuine forms of male disadvantage such as in schooling outcomes, defensive backlash to shifts in gender relations, or the influence of the "manosphere", the online network of anti-feminist groups.

5 Parents' and peers' views have a large effect

Parents and peers play influential roles in shaping boys' and young men's attitudes towards masculinity. Although this comes from males' own reports, other data corroborate this, finding for example that fathers' adherence to traditional masculine ideology is correlated with their sons' adherence.

6 The stronger the masculine norms, the more harmful

Boys' and young men's endorsement of rigid masculine norms feeds into harm to boys and young men, and to the people around them. The more strongly adolescent boys hold rigid views about masculinity, the less likely they are to seek help for a personal problem or to report that anyone knows them well.

For example, under one quarter (23 per cent) of boys with the highest levels of support for the "man box" agreed that no one really knows them well, compared to 46 per cent of boys with the lowest levels of support.

The stronger their personal endorsement of masculine norms, the more likely they are to blame victims of domestic violence, consume violent pornography, and cause harm to others. For example, 39 per cent of boys with the highest level of support for the man box had used bullying, physical violence or sexual harassment in the past month, more than five times as many as the 7 per cent of boys with the lowest level of support.

(By Michael Flood, Queensland University of Technology, The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Study finds moderate step count daily may delay cognitive decline by 7 years

Walking up to 5,000 steps everyday may help delay cognitive decline by three years on average while 7,500 steps daily may delay it by seven years, a study in around 300 individuals has found.

Sedentary individuals were seen to have a significantly faster buildup of tau proteins in the brain -- contributes to neuron death and is considered a hallmark of Alzheimer's disease -- and more rapid declines in cognition and daily functioning.

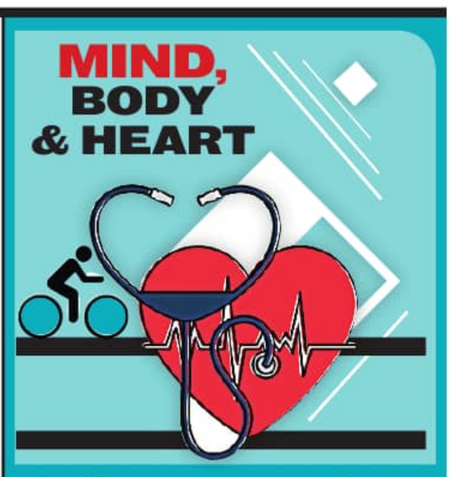
"Lifestyle factors appear to impact the earliest stages of Alzheimer's disease, suggesting that lifestyle changes may slow the emergence of cognitive symptoms if we act early," senior author Jasmeer Chhatwal from the Mass General Brigham, a US-based health care system, said.

"(The study) sheds light on why some people who appear to be on an Alzheimer's disease trajectory don't decline as quickly as others," Chhatwal said.

Alzheimer's disease is an ageing-related disorder, in which one's memory, speech and thought processes can steadily decline, eventually hampering everyday functioning.

The analysis, published in the journal Nature Medicine, looked at data from 296 participants aged 50-90 years old in the 'Harvard Aging Brain Study', all cognitively unimpaired at the study's start.

—PTI



All you need to know about...

Long-distance relationships

How often should partners communicate in a long-distance relationship?
There is really no fixed rule – the frequency depends on your mutual comfort. Ensure that communication is meaningful and consistent, and prioritise quality over quantity.

What is the best way to handle loneliness in a long-distance relationship?
While it is important to maintain contact with your partner, it is also vital to live your own life – focus on personal hobbies, social activities, and self-care. Being out in the world will help reduce loneliness.

How can partners keep trust intact across the distance?
Maintain transparency about feelings, and communicate with open honesty. Agree on boundaries in advance and regularly reaffirm your commitment to each other – this will build deeper trust between you.

What are some fun virtual date ideas?
Look for activities that will create shared memories. Play online games together, watch movies simultaneously, cook together over video, or share a virtual tour of a favourite place.

What is the best way to manage conflicts in a long-distance relationship?
Choose a conversation method such as a video call to avoid further misunderstandings. Avoid texting during moments of high emotion to prevent misinterpretation.

—Femina

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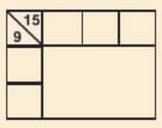
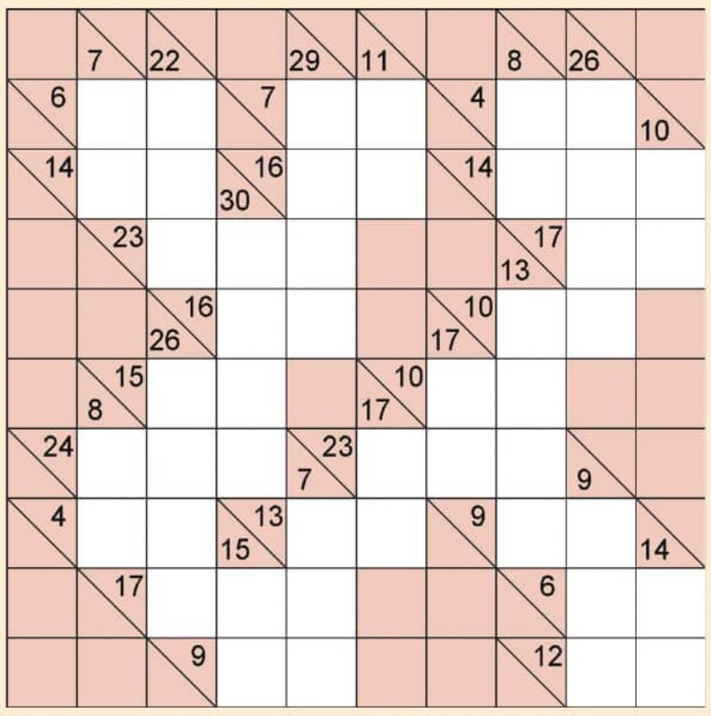
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

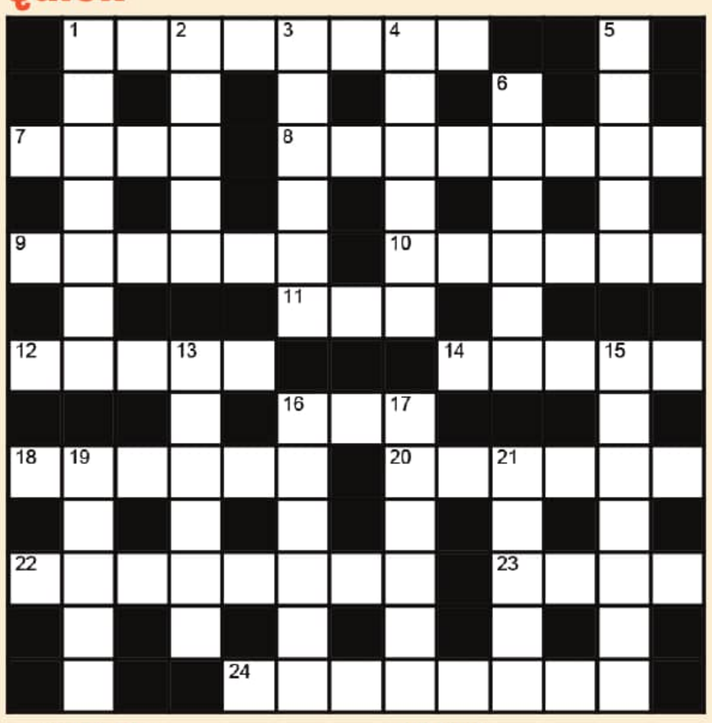
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 A piece of lab equipment (4-4)
7 Prefix for one thousand (4)
8 Remnant (8)
9 Breathed deeply (6)
10 Of rain, poured down (6)
11 Reactions of surprise (3)
12 Persian monarch, ___ the Great (5)
14 ___ Richard : old-time pop singer? (5)
16 Small poisonous snake (3)
18 Scooted (6)
20 Not susceptible (6)
22 Learner's end of the swimming pool (8)
23 Gusto (4)
24 There is no other chance of help or success except for this? (4,4)

DOWN

1 One of two metro stations in the Ulsoor area (7)
2 Laziness (5)
3 Fine sword (6)
4 Is suitable or becomes (6)
5 Pupil (French) (5)
6 Direction to a dog-lee hot, anagram? (2,4)
13 Maintained (6)
15 Bridge stratagem (7)
16 Abut or border on (6)
17 Dirty animal shed (6)
19 Detest (5)
21 Prefix: half-way (Ital) (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: L EQUALS Y

KO QYPJYTJ YOOJXQ LYH R UXJRDI PKTD, RGGJVD KD.

Linemaro

Are you an elevator, because you lift my spirits

Mindchow

Regardless of the temptation, don't lick a steak knife

Joke of the day

Wife: "In my dream, I saw you in a jewelry store and you bought me a diamond ring." Husband: "I had the same dream and I saw your dad paying the bill."

Loop

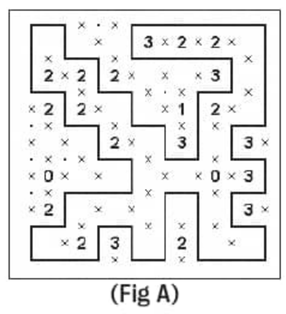
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

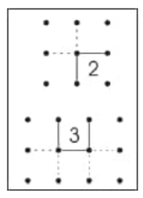
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

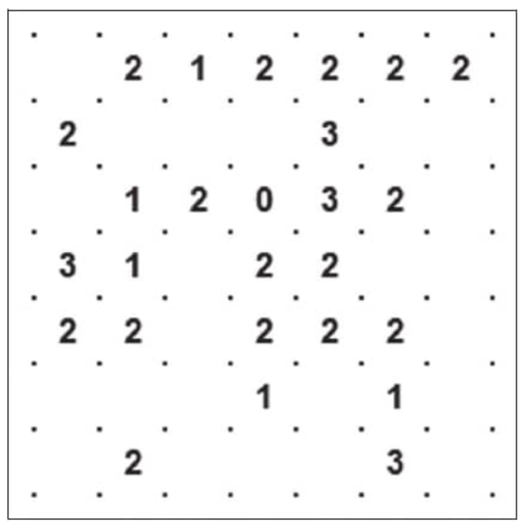
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



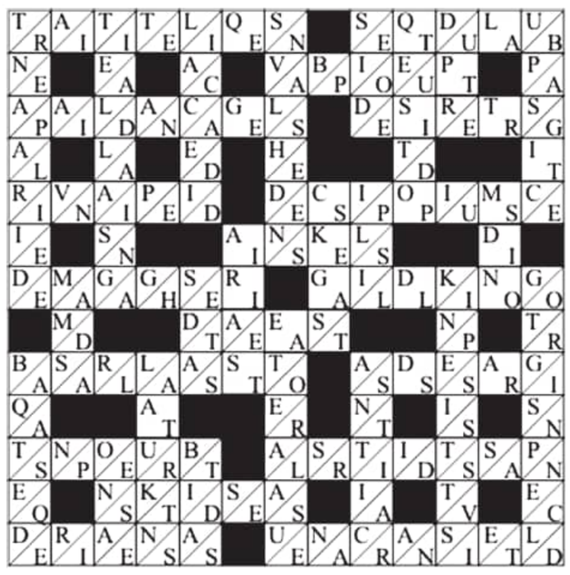
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



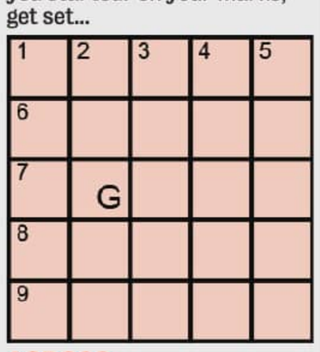
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

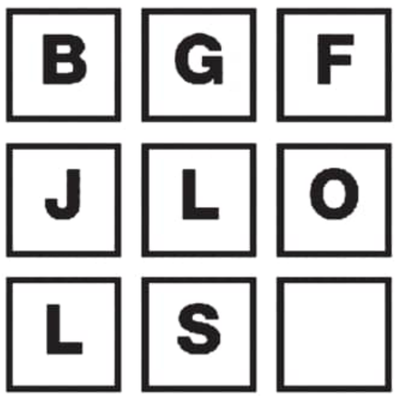
1 SS Lab; 6 Hi tab; 7 Genoa; 8 Bread; 9 Unlit

DOWN

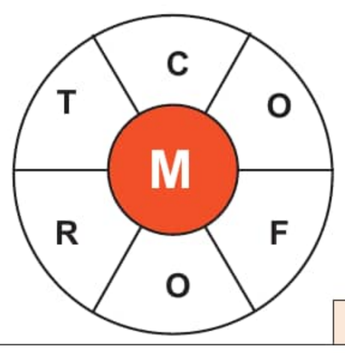
1 Bah us; 2 Galan; 3 Tabor; 4 Bid in; 5 Stele

Mensapuzzle

Which letter goes in the empty square?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; **05** Good; **07** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3				9	4	1		
	6	8	1					
	4				5			
		7			1	3	5	
	5		3		9		8	
	2	3	7			4		
			5				9	
					7	6	4	
		9	2	6				8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 11

4 7 8 8

Medium = 5

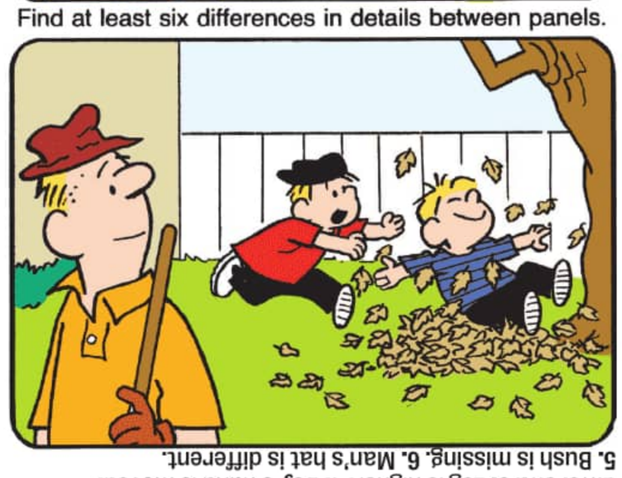
4 7 7 9

Hard = 12

2 6 7 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



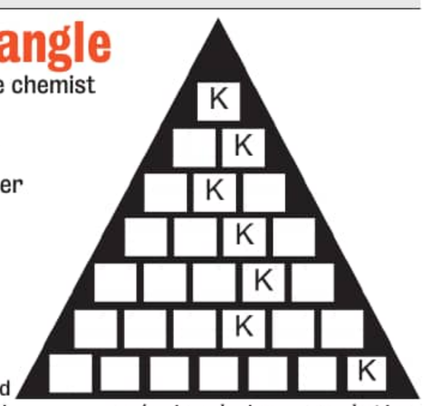
Differences: 1. Man's finger is moved. 2. Branch is different. 3. Leg is higher. 4. Boy's hand is moved. 5. Bush is missing. 6. Man's hat is different.

Riddler

We're all nuts .. can you name us? 1. Big country in South America. 2. A pod is my pad. 3. This came down in Germany. 4. Confection ingredient.

Alpha triangle

1 Potassium for the chemist
2 All right
3 Bulgarian weight
4 Furnace fuel
5 English philosopher
6 Shut away
7 Matrimony



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

YOU HAS TO TELL ME HOW TO GIT RID OF ME EXTRA SWEE'PEAS!
IT IS SIMPLE!
WHEN WE HAVE TOO MANY CLONES WE EVAPORATE THEM!
OF COURSE, IT'S NICE TO KNOW THE ORIGINAL SO YOU CAN SAVE IT!
©2025 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
popeye.com
2-7

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

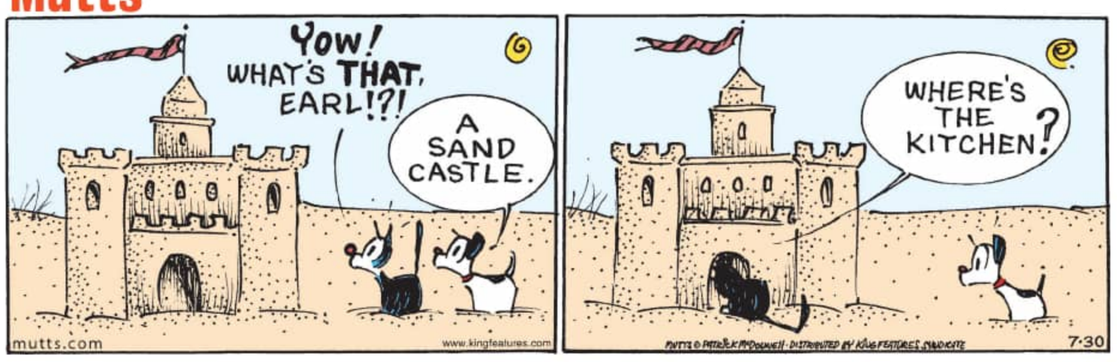
Hart of the city

YOU AUDITIONING FOR EVERY ROLE IN THE PLAY HAS INSPIRED ME TO DO SOMETHING CRAZY.
OOOH, ARE YOU ALSO AUDITIONING FOR EVERY ROLE? SHALL WE BE RIVALS ONCE AGAIN?
I'LL BE AUDITIONING FOR THE ROLE OF DIRECTOR!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

I HAD NO IDEA THAT THE MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL AIRPORT HAD SO MANY SHOPS!
I KNOW... IT'S LIKE A MALL WITH AIRPLANES AROUND IT!
Prince
7-30
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Lofty career ambitions are highly achievable; relentless dedication is the only key to unlocking the next level. Finances demand careful planning and the settling of all outstanding old debts. Love may face a serious test, which ultimately strengthens your deep partnership. Family bonds offer powerful emotional stability and support.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

A high-energy day awaits you! Opportunities, health, and connections align beautifully. Embrace the excitement but take mindful pauses to recharge. Balance enthusiasm with rest, ensuring steady progress and joyful productivity.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Luck favours you today! Your hard work finally pays off, opening doors to abundance. Blend creativity with confidence and release self-doubt; success in love, finances, and fulfilment now flows effortlessly your way.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Conflict gives way to clarity. Support or guidance arrives unexpectedly, leading to emotional or romantic breakthroughs. Trust your intuition; when you quiet fear, your heart reveals the right direction and peace follows.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Balance love, security, and finances with care. Though direction feels uncertain, faith anchors you. Reflect, rest, and realign your energy; trust the universe's plan and nurture your inner emotional stability today.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Success crowns your perseverance. Celebrate achievements and enjoy well-earned rewards. Stay grounded; guard your finances and energy wisely. Trust that this positive phase signals lasting growth and well-deserved abundance.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Lead with unity and grace. Collaborate rather than control, allowing teamwork to thrive. If you're guiding others, inspire through example; balance leadership with trust to strengthen harmony and shared purpose.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Change brings renewal and joy. Embrace spontaneity and follow your intuition toward creative opportunities. Trust the divine flow; your playful, authentic energy attracts luck, growth, and unexpected moments of delight.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Worry fades as new opportunities emerge. Challenges push you toward transformation; growth lies beyond discomfort. Trust the resources and support arriving now; unexpected blessings will guide your next chapter.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Too many responsibilities may weigh you down; pause and breathe. Lean on your support system, appreciate small joys, and trust that abundance and relief are closer than you think.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Reflect with gratitude on your progress. Appreciate life's small beauties; nature, calm, and simplicity bring peace. Focus energy on what's in your control and release what no longer serves you.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

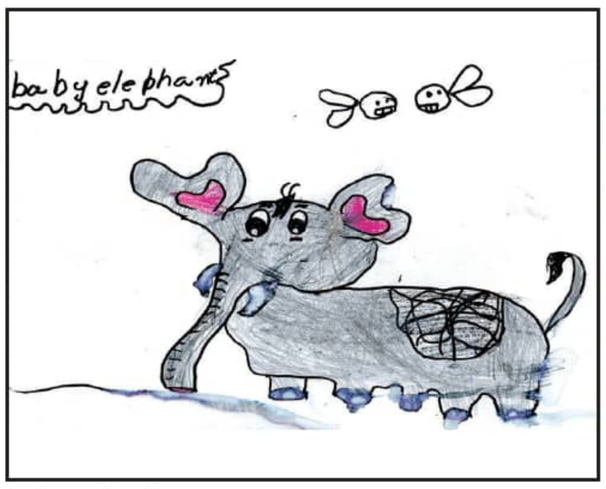
Momentum builds in your favour; embrace innovation and change. Rewards flow from your generosity, but balance giving with boundaries. Assert yourself confidently and welcome the success now making its way to you.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Stay rational and composed amid emotion. Detach from drama and approach problems logically. Support from others brings clarity, and your steady patience ensures recognition and positive long-term outcomes.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Sanjanna, Bengaluru

Diya, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
(5*8)^2 = 5^(8*2) = 5^16

BULL'S EYE
COMFORT, form, from, moor, moot, motor, room

STRIKE OUT

D	R	E	S	S		E	N	C	A	S	E	D		
E		S	K	I	E	S		I		T		E		
S	P	O	R	T		A	R	T	I	S	A	N		
A		A		E		N		I		N		N		
B	A	L	L	A	S	T		A	S	S	A	I		
M		T	E	A	T			N		R				
D	A	G	G	E	R		A	I	D	I	N	G		
E		N		A	S	K	S		I					
I	V	I	E	D		E	S	P	O	U	S	E		
L		L	E	H		T		T						
P	A	L	A	C	E	S		D	I	E	T	S		
E		E		A	B	O	U	T		A				
R	A	T	T	L	E	S		S	Q	U	A	B		

QUICK

		R			O	N	L	Y	H	O	P	E		
		O		D		I		T		Z		S		
S	H	A	L	L	O	W	S		Z	E	S	T		
		B		E		J		G		E		E		
D	A	S	H	E	D		I	M	M	U	N	E		
		P				A	S	P		I				
C	Y	R	U	S					C	L	I	F	F	
		T				O	H	S		E				
S	I	G	H	E	D		T	E	E	M	E	D		
N		T		E		I		H		V				
K	I	L	O		L	E	F	T	O	V	E	R		
R		L		O		E		T		L				
T	E	S	T	U	B	E				E				

MENSA PUZZLE
U. In columns, the value of the bottom letter equals the sum of the values of the other two.

QUOTE UNCODE
If someone offers you a breath mint, accept it.

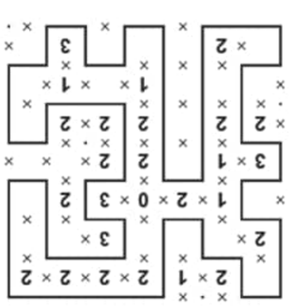
SUDOKU

4	1	9	2	6	3	5	7	8
2	8	5	9	1	7	6	4	3
7	3	6	5	4	8	2	9	1
8	2	3	7	5	6	4	1	9
1	5	4	3	2	9	7	8	6
6	9	7	4	8	1	3	5	2
9	4	1	6	3	5	8	2	7
5	6	8	1	7	2	9	3	4
3	7	2	8	9	4	1	6	5

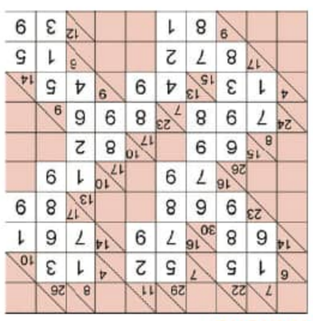
ALPHA TRIANGLE
K, Ok, Oke, Coke, Locke, Locked, Wedlock.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 + 4 + 8 - 8 = 11
Medium
9 - 4 + 7 - 7 = 5
Hard
8 - 6 x 7 - 2 = 12

LOOP



KAKURO



FAST FIVE

S	L	A	B	S
H	A	B	I	T
A	G	O	N	E
B	A	R	D	E
U	N	T	I	L

RIDDLER
1. Brazil,
2. Peanut,
3. Walnut (The Berlin wall) &
4. Coconut

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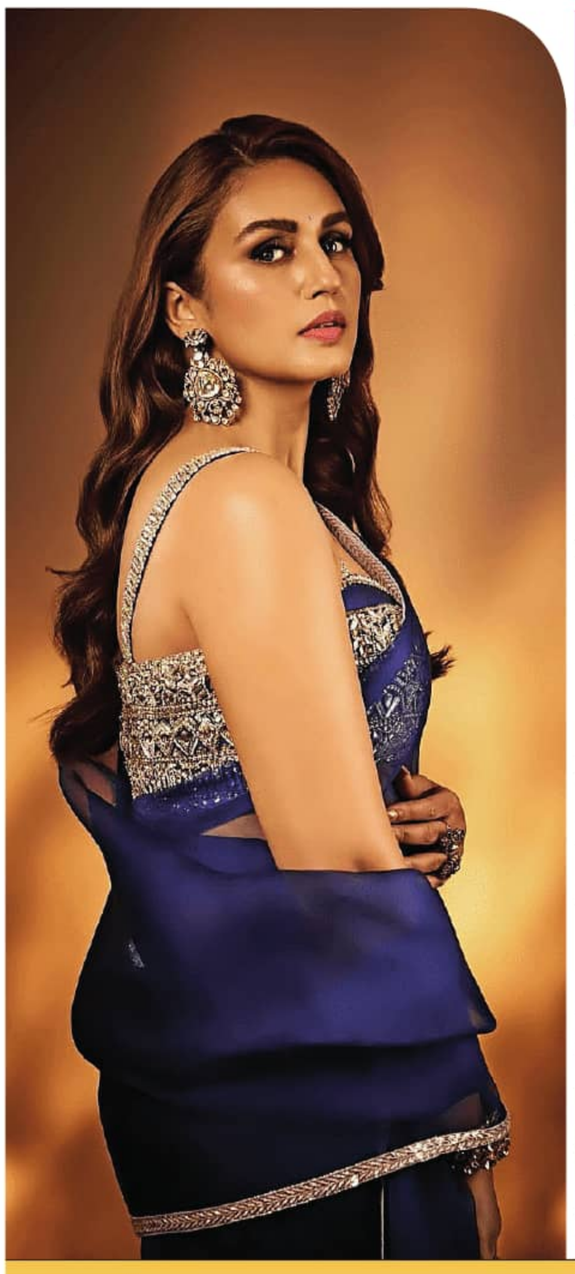
 # Felicitations to Rajini
Rajinikanth to be felicitated in the closing ceremony of IFFI 2025

Hidden superpower



Huma Qureshi is gearing up for a whirlwind of performances that span regions, dialects, and emotional landscapes. Her upcoming lineup — Single Salma, Maharani 4, and Delhi Crime 3 — reflects her ongoing quest to explore diverse characters and challenge herself with every new role.

Talking about the range she's portraying this year, Huma shares, "This month, I'm playing a girl in Single Salma, who's a Shia Muslim girl from Uttar Pradesh. Then I play Rani Bharti, a Bihari rural politician. And then I play Badi Didi, who's a Haryanvi... I couldn't have asked for a more diverse filmography than this."

Each role, she says, demands not just a shift in body language and mindset but also an authentic command over dialect. She says, "If I spend half an hour or an hour a day with someone, I can start speaking like them. That's my secret superpower (laughs!)."

At the trailer launch of Delhi Crime Season 3 recently, while speaking about joining the celebrated series and playing the antagonist Badi Didi, Huma said, "Evil suits me (laughs)! On a serious note, I've been such a huge fan of Delhi Crime Seasons One and Two that when I got the call to be part of it, I felt like a kid who just got their favourite toy..." **—ETimes**

CONFIDENT IN HER SKIN

Kareena says she is happy in her size and shape

Bollywood actress Kareena Kapoor Khan has donned versatile characters. Once known for her baby-like face, her size zero grabbed all the headlines for the film Tashan. But if you ask Kareena, size never really mattered to her.

Slender or chubby, she has always been content and confident. In a recently shared interview clip, the actress can be seen speaking her heart out about how she is a true Punjabi girl who loves her food and focuses more on talent than her body shape.

In the video shared by Pinkvilla, Kareena can be seen candidly confessing to being confident in her own skin. She said, "I think that I was always very happy in my size and shape, I was slightly chubby, and I was always chubby even in the first film also."

She added, "I was very like listen, I love my parathas, I'm a proper Punjabi kuddi, I love it and I'm very proud of it and I can't be any other way and I'm here for my talent, I want to sell my talent, I'm not here for anything else.

The actress admitted that the pressure is always there, and looking glamorous in a way comes with the job description as well.

A couple of weeks ago, Kareena Kapoor Khan shared that she had started the shoot of her 68th film. As the reportedly crime drama went on the floors, she wrote, "Day 1 of the 68th film, Daayra, with the most amazing @meghnagulzar and @therealprithvi Send love and blessings." Meghna Gulzar, who is directing the film, also shared a video with the caption - "A journey of blurred and crossed lines. We begin." **—ETimes**

A bit of this, that and the other

RONA
2.5 RATING ★★½☆☆
- **DIRECTOR** K Satish Kumar
- **ACTORS** Raghu Raja Nanda, Prakruthi Prasad, Sharath Lohitashwa, Bala Rajwadi, Sangeetha Anil
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 126 minutes

Satish Kumar, who has been associated with Kannada movies for nine years, debuts as a director with this movie. Satish Kumar has made a good attempt, but he may have taken too much on his plate as the film tries to tackle politics, sentiments, devotion, superstition, land grabbing, corruption among other themes. Dialogues of the film that are emotional and intense are an asset.

The movie begins with a car owner getting killed in mysterious circumstances on the way home at night. Later the scene shifts to a village where Ramakrishna (Sharath Lohitashwa) and his friend Hanumantha (Bala Rajwadi) help farmers retain their land from being acquired for a solar energy plant. The local MLA, who is hand-in-glove with the companies, tries to cheat villagers by organising events. The MLA's henchmen try to attack Ramakrishna but Shivu (Raghu Raja Nandan) teaches them a lesson. The MLA's supporters kill Hanumantha and other villagers. Ramakrishna tries to provide shelter to Hanumantha's daughter Kavya (Prakruthi Prasad). You have to watch the movie to know what happens to Shivu and Kavya.

The movie would have been a good entertainer for family audiences had the director focused on the screenplay. The selection of actors is not up to the mark. For example, Raghu Raja Nanda, who plays the lead, has to improve a lot if he wants to continue acting. He looks stoic in most of the sequences. His dialogue delivery is good but gestures are poor. Prakruthi Prasad has made an attempt but she has to go a long way to establish herself as a heroine. Sharath Lohitashwa and Bala Rajwadi have provided good support. KS Sridhar plays a different character while Chillar Manju desperately tries to tickle the audience's funny bone.

It is worth a watch if you want to know of politics in rural areas.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Gouri Kishan slams body shamer

Actress Gouri G Kishan slammed a YouTuber for asking a derogatory question about her weight during a press conference for the Tamil film "Others" here on November 6. Her reply went viral, earning her support from numerous personalities.

The Chennai Press Club condemned the behaviour of the YouTuber who asked an inappropriate question to the actress, who is well known for her work in Tamil and Malayalam cinema.

In the video that went viral, Gouri could be heard asking the man, "how does my weight concern you in any way. How does it matter and be relevant to the film? My weight is my choice and it does not concern my talent..... It is nothing but body shaming. It's a stupid question on body weight."

Her co-star in the film that was released on Friday, Aditya Madhavan, who was present at the event, later said his silence didn't mean approval of the body shaming. "I froze because it caught me off guard - it's my debut. I wish I'd stepped in sooner. She didn't deserve that. No one does. Everyone deserves respect," he wrote on 'X.' **—PTI**

Hugs all around

Amid reports of a possible rift between Millie Bobby Brown and David Harbour, the entire cast of 'Stranger Things' gathered to celebrate the final season, with the duo appearing to put all the rumours to rest.

Millie Bobby Brown and David Harbour shared a warm hug and laugh as they posed together on the red carpet on Thursday. In videos and pictures shared by Netflix on Instagram, the actors could be seen sharing a great camaraderie. At one point, Brown was joking about scribbling on Harbour's face, leading the two to share a hug. In the show, Brown portrays the character of Eleven, and David Harbour essays police chief Jim Hopper, who later adopts Eleven. Their appearance at the event arrived days after reports suggested Brown had allegedly accused Harbour of "bullying and harassment". **—ANI**